

(S. B. 262)

(No. 54-2015)

(Approved April 24, 2015)

AN ACT

To designate Road PR-957, located in the Municipality of Canóvanas, as well as the stretch of Road PR-186 that runs from the intersection with said Road PR-957 up to the intersection with Road PR-3 in the Municipality of Río Grande, as the “Mirador del Yunque Scenic Route.”

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

There are hundreds of exceptional places in Puerto Rico where both citizens and visitors can enjoy our natural, tourist, and recreational wealth. Thus, the creation of a scenic route seeks to promote these areas with beautiful landscapes and great natural and environmental value so that visitors may have a chance to observe the sights from their vehicles or to participate in activities set along the way.

Scenic routes highlight a place’s natural, historic, and cultural wealth. Our routes bring together natural resources, neighboring communities, and visitors, thus becoming tourist attractions. For such reasons, we are looking to identify several routes that present special landscape features. This allows us to harmonize geography, culture, and other social characteristics that identify us as a People.

Road PR-957, located in the Municipality of Canóvanas, as well as the stretch of Road PR-186 that runs from the intersection with said Road PR-957 up to the intersection with Road PR-3 in the Municipality of Río Grande, showcase impressive views with great potential for economic growth that can be brought about by citizens and visitors wanting to contemplate the scenery while stopping at local commercial establishments.

The scenic route herein proposed is framed within the theme of unmatched natural beauty offered by the El Yunque Park and Nature Reserve. This national patrimony, which fills us with pride, is located at the Luquillo Mountain Range and

encompasses about 11,500 hectares. The municipalities of Canóvanas and Río Grande, two towns that will benefit directly from this initiative, had for years been calling for a public thoroughfare that identified and promoted the appeal of El Yunque.

On the other hand, taking into account how close El Yunque is from the Metropolitan Area – which receives an estimate of over a million visitors each year – the Island’s economy would be well-served by strengthening the development of this region by turning it into a potential tourist and recreational destination.

Therefore, with the foregoing in mind, we deem it convenient to designate the aforesaid stretches of road as the “Mirador del Yunque Scenic Route” in order to promote the area’s tourist development, as well as to encourage the preservation and conservation of our valuable natural resources and further our goals for progress according to the challenges of the 21st century.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1. – Road PR-957, located in the Municipality of Canóvanas, as well as the stretch of Road PR-186 that runs from the intersection with Road PR-957 up to the intersection with Road PR-3 in the Municipality of Río Grande, is hereby designated as the “Mirador del Yunque Scenic Route.”

Section 2. – The Public Structures and Highways Naming Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Department of Transportation and Public Works, and the Highways and Transportation Authority shall take the necessary measures to comply with the provisions of this Act without being subject to the provisions of Act No. 99 of June 22, 1961, as amended, known as the “Public Structures and Highways Naming Commission Act.”

Section 3. – This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following **Act No. 54-2015 (S. B. 262)** of the **5th Regular Session** of the **17th Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico**:

AN ACT to designate Road PR-957, located in the Municipality of Canóvanas, as well as the stretch of Road PR-186 that runs from the intersection with said Road PR-957 up to the intersection with Road PR-3 in the Municipality of Río Grande, as the “Mirador del Yunque Scenic Route.”

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, on this 23rd day of January, 2018.

Orlando Pagán-Ramírez
Acting Director