

CHAPTER 302

(Senate Bill 1034)

AN ACT concerning

Silver Spring District Courthouse – Renaming

FOR the purpose of renaming the District Courthouse located in Silver Spring, Montgomery County, the Judge L. Leonard Ruben District Courthouse; providing for certain funding for the implementation of this Act; requiring a certain administrative officer to change certain signs to reflect the renaming of the Courthouse; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the renaming of the District Courthouse located in Silver Spring, Montgomery County.

BY adding to

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 1–603.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2006 Replacement Volume)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Judge L. Leonard Ruben served as a member of the United States Navy during the Second World War; and

WHEREAS, He served for one term as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, representing Silver Spring, beginning in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ruben was appointed to the Montgomery County District Court in 1974, where he served until 1983, when he was promoted to the Circuit Court; and

WHEREAS, Judge L. Leonard Ruben served with distinction until 1995 when he reached the mandatory retirement age of 70, and after retirement continued to help with heavy caseloads by hearing cases several times a month; and

WHEREAS, Known as a fair and sensible jurist, Judge Ruben was highly interactive with and attentive to the parties that appeared before him and made every

effort to balance justice and compassion as he deliberated and issued his decisions; and

WHEREAS, He further distinguished himself by initiating an anti-drug program that served as a model for other jurisdictions in Maryland and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, Judge Ruben was active in his community, having served on the Board of Directors of the Hebrew Home for Greater Washington, as well as other community-based institutions; and

WHEREAS, Former Maryland State Senator Ida G. Ruben, Judge Ruben's wife, was instrumental in securing the funding for and securing the construction of the Silver Spring District Courthouse, that opened in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Judge L. Leonard Ruben, throughout his life, demonstrated an exceptional level of selfless service, ensuring that his compassion and commitment to justice would remain as a lasting legacy to the Maryland and Montgomery County legal communities; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly wishes to express its profound respect for, and deep gratitude to, Judge L. Leonard Ruben, and to name the District Courthouse, located at 8552 Second Avenue, Silver Spring, Montgomery County, Maryland, in his honor, and in honor of his service to Montgomery County and the State of Maryland; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

1-603.1.

THE DISTRICT COURTHOUSE, LOCATED AT 8552 SECOND AVENUE, SILVER SPRING, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND, SHALL BE RENAMED THE JUDGE L. LEONARD RUBEN DISTRICT COURTHOUSE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) Funding for the implementation of this Act shall be as provided to the extent funds are available in the budget of the Judicial Branch appropriated in the State Budget for fiscal 2008.

(b) The Chief Administrative Clerk of District 6 – Montgomery County shall ensure the changing of the existing signs in the Courthouse to reflect the renaming of the District Courthouse located in Silver Spring, Montgomery County, as the Judge L. Leonard Ruben District Courthouse.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2007.