

Congress Gives Final Approval to Bill Naming SR-1 Bridge after Senator Roth - November 13, 2006

WASHINGTON - Congress on Monday gave final approval to legislation naming the State Route 1 Bridge over the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal after the late Sen. William Roth. The Senate had approved the bill in 2005, and the House passed the bill by voice vote on Monday afternoon, sending it to the president's desk for his signature.

The legislation will designate the bridge the "Senator William V. Roth, Jr. Bridge." Sen. Roth was instrumental in securing federal funds to construct the bridge, which was completed in December 1995.

"Bill Roth was a trusted colleague and a close personal friend for nearly three decades," said Senator Biden. "Over the years, I came to know him as a practical and pragmatic man who knew what was important, and very quietly and effectively did what he knew was right for the people of Delaware. It will be nice to have a lasting tribute to a man who did so much for the State."

"Senator Roth was an extraordinary man and dedicated public servant," said Senator Carper. "Naming this bridge after him will be a fitting tribute to the dedication and service of Senator Roth to the people of Delaware and the nation."

"A leader and dedicated public servant, Senator Roth served honorably during his years in Congress and set a tremendous example for future generations of Americans. Nothing in my mind would serve as a better tribute to Senator Roth's many years of dedicated public service than to rename this bridge, a true architectural gem in Delaware, in his honor," said Congressman Castle.

Sen. Roth was first elected to the House in 1966, serving two terms, before being elected to the Senate, where he served for 30 years. He also won the Bronze Star for his service in the U.S. Army during World War II. He died in 2003 at the age of 82.