

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22—ASSEMBLYMEN ANDERSON, ANGLE, ARBERRY, BACHE, BEERS, BERMAN, BROWER, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER, CEGAVSKE, CHOWNING, CLABORN, COLLINS, DE BRAGA, DINI, EVANS, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOLDWATER, GUSTAVSON, HETTRICK, HUMKE, KOIVISTO, LEE, LESLIE, MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, MORTENSON, NEIGHBORS, NOLAN, OHRENSCHALL, PARKS, PARNELL, PERKINS, PRICE, SEGERBLUM, THOMAS, TIFFANY, VON TOBEL AND WILLIAMS

MARCH 2, 1999

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Recognizes March 2, 1999, as “Read Across America” Day in Nevada in commemoration of Dr. Seuss’s birthday. (BDR R-1624)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Recognizing March 2, 1999, as “Read Across America” Day in Nevada in commemoration of Dr. Seuss’s birthday.

- 1 WHEREAS, Theodor Seuss Geisel was born on March 2, 1904, in
- 2 Springfield, Massachusetts; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Theodor Seuss Geisel graduated from Dartmouth College in
- 4 1925 and began writing humorous articles and creating cartoons for
- 5 various magazines; and
- 6 WHEREAS, His first children’s book, *And to Think That I Saw It on*
- 7 *Mulberry Street*, was rejected by 43 publishers until, in 1937, a friend
- 8 published the book for him; and
- 9 WHEREAS, In May of 1954, *Life* magazine published a report
- 10 concerning illiteracy among school children, stating that, among other
- 11 things, children were having trouble learning to read because the books
- 12 were boring; and
- 13 WHEREAS, This comment inspired Theodor Seuss Geisel’s publisher,
- 14 Bennett Cerf, to compile a list of 400 words that he felt were important,
- 15 asking Mr. Geisel to cut the list to 250 words, the amount of words a first
- 16 grader could absorb, and using only those words to write a book that would
- 17 excite children; and

1 WHEREAS, Nine months later, Mr. Geisel, using 220 of the words given
2 to him, published *The Cat in the Hat*, which became an instant success;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Later in 1960, Bennett Cerf bet Mr. Geisel \$50 that he
5 couldn't write an entire book using only 50 words and from that challenge
6 came the famous children's book, *Green Eggs and Ham*, which also
7 became an instant success; and

8 WHEREAS, From that point on, Theodor Seuss Geisel became known as
9 "Dr. Seuss," and children became enthused about reading every Dr. Seuss
10 book available; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Seuss died on September 24, 1991, but his legacy of
12 children's books will live forever as an inspiration to children everywhere
13 to learn to read and to share in the laughter, enjoyment and knowledge that
14 a book can provide; and

15 WHEREAS, In honor of Dr. Seuss and the joy of reading, the National
16 Education Association has designated March 2, 1999, as "Read Across
17 America" day and has called upon every child to read with a caring adult
18 on this day in honor of what would have been Dr. Seuss's 95th birthday;
19 now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE
21 CONCURRING, That March 2, 1999, is hereby recognized as "Read Across
22 America" Day in Nevada in commemoration of Dr. Seuss's birthday; and
23 be it further

24 RESOLVED, That children and adults are encouraged to read a favorite
25 book together on this date to share the joy of reading; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit
27 a copy of this resolution to Elaine Lancaster, President of the Nevada State
28 Education Association, and Ken Lange, Executive Director of the Nevada
29 State Education Association.