

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, Segerblom, Thomas, Tiffany, Von Tobel and Williams

FILE NUMBER.....

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

WHEREAS, Theodor Seuss Geisel was born on March 2, 1904, in Springfield, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Theodor Seuss Geisel graduated from Dartmouth College in 1925 and began writing humorous articles and creating cartoons for various magazines; and

WHEREAS, His first children’s book, *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*, was rejected by 43 publishers until, in 1937, a friend published the book for him; and

WHEREAS, In May of 1954, *Life* magazine published a report concerning illiteracy among school children, stating that, among other things, children were having trouble learning to read because the books were boring; and

WHEREAS, This comment inspired Theodor Seuss Geisel’s publisher, Bennett Cerf, to compile a list of 400 words that he felt were important, asking Mr. Geisel to cut the list to 250 words, the amount of words a first grader could absorb, and using only those words to write a book that would excite children; and

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

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

WHEREAS, From that point on, Theodor Seuss Geisel became known as “Dr. Seuss,” and children became enthused about reading every Dr. Seuss book available; and

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

WHEREAS, In honor of Dr. Seuss and the joy of reading, the National Education Association has designated March 2, 1999, as “Read Across America” day and has called upon every child to read with a caring adult

on this day in honor of what would have been Dr. Seuss's 95th birthday;
now, therefore, be it

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

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

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

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