

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8—ASSEMBLYMEN ANDERSON, ANGLE, ARBERRY, BACHE, BEERS, BERMAN, BROWER, BROWN, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER, CEGAVSKE, CHOWNING, CLABORN, COLLINS, DE BRAGA, DINI, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOLDWATER, GUSTAVSON, HETTRICK, HUMKE, KOIVISTO, LEE, LESLIE, MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, MORTENSON, NEIGHBORS, NOLAN, OCEGUERA, OHRENSCHALL, PARKS, PARNELL, PERKINS, PRICE, SMITH, TIFFANY, VON TOBEL AND WILLIAMS

MARCH 2, 2001

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS RAGGIO, TITUS, AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON, COFFIN, JACOBSEN, JAMES, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NEAL, O'CONNELL, O'DONNELL, PORTER, RAWSON, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Recognizes March 2, 2001, as “Read Across America” Day in Nevada in commemoration of Dr. Seuss’s birthday. (BDR R-1483)

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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, 2001, 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 was pursuing a doctorate in English literature at Oxford
- 5 University when he returned from Europe in 1927 and began writing
- 6 humorous articles and creating cartoons for various magazines; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The first children’s book written by Theodor Seuss Geisel,
- 8 *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*, was rejected by 43
- 9 publishers until, in 1937, a friend published the book for him, the first step
- 10 in a career that would change the world of children’s literature forever; and
- 11 WHEREAS, In May of 1954, *Life* magazine published a report
- 12 concerning illiteracy among school children, stating that, among other



1 things, children were having trouble learning to read because the books  
2 were boring; and

3 WHEREAS, This comment inspired Theodor Seuss Geisel's publisher,  
4 Bennett Cerf, to compile a list of 400 words that he felt were important,  
5 and he asked Mr. Geisel to cut the list to 250 words and use only those  
6 words to write a book that would excite children; and

7 WHEREAS, Using 220 of the words given to him, Mr. Geisel wrote *The*  
8 *Cat in the Hat*, which became the prototype for Beginner Books, the  
9 popular Random House series that combines engaging stories with  
10 outrageous illustrations and playful sounds to teach basic reading skills;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, A few years later, Bennett Cerf bet Mr. Geisel \$50 that he  
13 couldn't write an entire book using only 50 words, and from that challenge  
14 came the famous children's book *Green Eggs and Ham*, which is familiar  
15 to almost everyone who has ever had contact with a child; and

16 WHEREAS, From that point on, Theodor Seuss Geisel became known as  
17 "Dr. Seuss," and his philosophy that "Children want the same things we  
18 want: To laugh, to be challenged, to be entertained, and delighted" was the  
19 inspiration that would make him the best-selling author of children's books  
20 in the world; and

21 WHEREAS, Brilliant, playful and always respectful of children, Dr.  
22 Seuss received the Pulitzer Prize in 1984 for his lifetime contribution to the  
23 education and enjoyment of America's children and their parents; and

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

28 WHEREAS, In honor of Dr. Seuss and the joy of reading, the National  
29 Education Association has designated March 2, 2001, as "Read Across  
30 America" Day and has called upon every child to read with a caring adult  
31 on this day in honor of what would have been Dr. Seuss's 97th birthday;  
32 now, therefore, be it

33 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE  
34 CONCURRING, That March 2, 2001, is hereby recognized as "Read Across  
35 America" Day in Nevada in commemoration of Dr. Seuss's birthday; and  
36 be it further

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

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

