

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 11—Assemblymen Koivisto; Aizley, Anderson, Arberry, Atkinson, Bobzien, Buckley, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Cobb, Conklin, Denis, Dondero Loop, Gansert, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Grady, Gustavson, Hambrick, Hardy, Hogan, Horne, Kihuen, Kirkpatrick, Leslie, Manendo, Mastroluca, McArthur, McClain, Mortenson, Munford, Oceguela, Ohrenschall, Parnell, Pierce, Segerblom, Settelmeyer, Smith, Spiegel, Stewart and Woodbury

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FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Recognizing March 2, 2009, 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 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 number 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 only 220 of the words given to him, published *The Cat in the Hat*, which became an instant success; and

WHEREAS, In 1960, Bennett Cerf bet Mr. Geisel \$50 that he could not write an entire book using only 50 words, and from that challenge came the famous children’s book *Green Eggs and Ham*, which was also 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, 2009, as a special day in their program "Read Across America," the nationwide initiative that promotes reading every day; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That March 2, 2009, 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 and 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 Lynn Warne, President of the Nevada State Education Association, and Terry Hickman, Executive Director of the Nevada State Education Association.

