

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-237

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 4, 2020

To recognize and celebrate National Read Across America Day and to declare March 2, 2020 as “Read Across America Day” in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, in 1997, a National Education Association (NEA) reading task force suggested a day of reading to emphasize the fun and adventure of reading;

WHEREAS, more than 50 national organizations concerned about reading and education have joined with the National Education Association to designate March 2, the anniversary of the birth of Theodor Geisel (commonly known as Dr. Seuss), as a day to celebrate reading;

WHEREAS, on March 2, 1998, the first annual Read Across America Day celebration was held;

WHEREAS, Read Across America Day is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2;

WHEREAS, reading is a basic skill for a quality education, a requirement for a successful life’s work, and a source of pleasure throughout life;

WHEREAS, reading ability is essential to our Nation’s ability to remain competitive in a global economy;

WHEREAS, Read Across America Day is the largest reading event in the United States and promotes reading and adult involvement in the education of our community’s students;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia recognizes that reading is essential for a child’s success, and encourages parents and guardians to read with their children for at least 30 minutes on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Read Across America Day;

**ENROLLED ORIGINAL**

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia stands firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our students' future academic success, their preparation for America's jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia identifies that reading is the building block to learning and the foundation for future success, places a great emphasis on reading intervention, and will remain committed to providing additional resources for reading assistance.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "District of Columbia Read Across America Day Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2020".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia enthusiastically endorses "NEA's Read Across America" and recommits to engage in programs and activities to make the District's children the best readers in the world, and hereby declares March 2, 2020, as "Read Across America Day" in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.