

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 56

Recognizing March 2, 1999, as the “National Read Across America Day” and encouraging every child, parent, and teacher to read throughout the year.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 2, 1999

Mr. COVERDELL (for himself, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. ROBB) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

---

# RESOLUTION

Recognizing March 2, 1999, as the “National Read Across America Day” and encouraging every child, parent, and teacher to read throughout the year.

Whereas reading is a fundamental part of life and every American should be given the chance to experience the many joys it can bring;

Whereas National Read Across America Day calls for every child in every American community to celebrate and extoll the virtue of reading on the birthday of America’s favorite Doctor—Dr. Seuss;

Whereas National Read Across America Day is designed to show every American child that reading can be fun, and encourages parents, relatives, and entire communities to read to our Nation’s children;

Whereas National Read Across America Day calls on every American to take time out of their busy day to pick up a favorite book and read to a young boy or girl, a class, or a group of students;

Whereas reading is a catalyst for our children's future academic success, their preparation for America's jobs of the future, and our Nation's ability to compete in the global economy;

Whereas the distinguished Chairman Jim Jeffords and Ranking Member Ted Kennedy of the Senate, Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee have provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in reading through their participation in the Everybody Wins! program;

Whereas Chairman Jim Jeffords has been recognized for his leadership in reading by Parenting Magazine;

Whereas prominent sports figures such as National Read Across America Day Honorary Chairman Cal Ripken of the Baltimore Orioles baseball team, Sandy Alomar of the Cleveland Indians, and members of the Atlanta Falcons football team have dedicated substantial time, energy, and resources to encourage young people to experience the joy and fun of reading; and

Whereas the 105th Congress made a historic commitment to reading through the passage of the Reading Excellence Act which focused on traditionally successful phonics instruction, tutorial assistance grants for at-risk kids, and literacy assistance for parents: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) recognizes March 2, 1999, as National Read

3       Across America Day; and

1           (2) expresses its wishes that every child in every  
2   American city and town has the ability and desire to  
3   read throughout the year, and receives the parental  
4   and adult encouragement to succeed and achieve  
5   academic excellence.

○