SHORT TITLE: Designates March 2, 1998 as "Read Across America" Day in the State of Oklahoma; encouraging all Oklahomans to celebrate this event by reading with a child.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 58 By: Roberts and Williams

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution designating March 2, 1998 as "Read Across America" Day in the State of Oklahoma; encouraging all Oklahomans to celebrate this event by reading with a child; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Theodor "Ted" Geisel was born in Springfield, Massachusetts on March 2, 1904. After graduating from Dartmouth College he entered Oxford University to pursue a doctorate in literature. When in 1954, a report on child illiteracy attributed children's inability to read as the result of exposure to boring books, Geisel used only 220 words to write a book for first graders. The name of his book was "The Cat in the Hat" which he wrote under his mother's maiden name, Seuss. Dr. Seuss won the Pulitzer Prize in 1984, and two academy awards (one for "Gerald McBoing-Boing" and the other for a military documentary). Dr. Seuss wrote three of the top ten best-selling hard cover children's books of all time: "The Cat in the Hat", "Green Eggs and Ham" and "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish". Dr. Seuss wrote and illustrated 48 books which sold more than 200 million copies before his death on September 24, 1991; and

WHEREAS, in honor of the life and work of Dr. Seuss, March 2, 1998, his birthday, is designated as "Read Across America Day" to be celebrated by reading with children. This program is supported by a broad coalition of literacy, educational and business groups, including the Oklahoma Education Association, National Education

Association (NEA), the American Library Association (ALA), the National Parent-Teachers Association (PTA), the Dr. Seuss Foundation, Reading is Fundamental, the American Association of School Administrators, the National School Principals, and numerous other public and private organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate hereby designates March 2, 1998, as "Read Across America" Day in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate encourages all Oklahomans to celebrate this event by assuring that every child in this state is in a safe place reading together with a caring adult on March 2, 1998.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the national "Read Across America" program, the Oklahoma Education Association, the Oklahoma Library Association, the Oklahoma Congress of Parents and Teachers, the Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administrators and the Dr. Seuss Foundation.

46-2-2724 THC (<time=system>)