

Enrolled
House Concurrent Resolution 30

Sponsored by Representatives HUDSON, NOBLE, Senator DEMBROW; Representatives CAMPOS, GRAYBER, HAYDEN, LEIF, MOORE-GREEN, MORGAN, REARDON, RESCHKE, SOLLMAN, WILDE, WILLIAMS, Senators PATTERSON, STEINER HAYWARD, THATCHER

Whereas Beverly Cleary was born Beverly Atlee Bunn on April 12, 1916, in McMinnville, Oregon, to Chester Lloyd Bunn and Mable Atlee Bunn; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary grew up on a farm in the town of Yamhill, Oregon, until she moved to Portland, Oregon, with her family; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary's mother introduced her daughter to books through a lending program she arranged with the Oregon State Library; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary overcame her initial struggles with reading and came to love reading; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary noticed that few books were relevant to her childhood or to children in her community, and she decided that she wanted to write children's books that universally appealed to children; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary earned a bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley and a master's degree in library science from the University of Washington; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary worked at the Multnomah County Library in the Central Library branch as a young adult and was an ardent supporter of and donor to the Multnomah County Library throughout her life; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary married Clarence T. Cleary in 1940; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary was the mother of two children, Malcolm and Marianne, who became the inspirations for her characters Mitch and Amy; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary served her country as a post librarian at the United States Army Hospital in Oakland, California, from 1942 to 1945; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary published her first book, *Henry Huggins*, in 1950; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary created such beloved and iconic characters as Henry Huggins, Ramona Quimby, Beezus Quimby, Ellen Tebbits, Ribsy, Ralph S. Mouse, Socks and many others; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary published more than four dozen books over a five-decade career; and

Whereas more than 85 million copies of Beverly Cleary's books have been sold, and her books have been translated into at least 29 languages; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary's books have been adapted into film and television productions; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary is regarded as a master and beloved storyteller who revolutionized the way that children's books are written; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary received numerous honors and awards, including the National Medal of Arts, the National Book Award, the American Library Association's Laura Ingalls Wilder Award, the Association for Library Service to Children's Newbery Medal, Newbery Honor Book recognition, the Children's Book Council's Everychild Award, the Catholic Library Association's Regina Medal, the University of Southern Mississippi's Silver Medallion and the *Los Angeles Times*' Robert Kirsch Award; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary was the United States author nominee for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 1984; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary's books have won more than 35 reader-nominated state awards; and

Whereas in 2000, Beverly Cleary was named a "Living Legend" by the Library of Congress for her creative contributions to the cultural heritage of the United States; and

Whereas in 1988, Beverly Cleary published a memoir, *A Girl from Yamhill*, about her childhood in Oregon; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary based her books in Portland and elsewhere in Oregon; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary School in the Grant Park neighborhood of Portland was named in her honor and in recognition of her connection to the school and her upbringing in the neighborhood; and

Whereas the Beverly Cleary Sculpture Garden in Grant Park honors the references to the park and the surrounding neighborhood in her books; and

Whereas the Multnomah County Library has installed numerous memorials in recognition of Beverly Cleary's connections to Portland and in honor of her accomplishments and contributions to literature, including naming the Beverly Cleary Children's Library in the Central Library branch in her honor; and

Whereas readers around the world observe Drop Everything and Read Day (D.E.A.R. Day) every year on April 12, in honor of Beverly Cleary's birthday, to celebrate books and reading; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary would have celebrated her 105th birthday on April 12, 2021; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary passed away on March 25, 2021, at the age of 104; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor Beverly Cleary for her lifetime achievements in literature, which have brought joy to tens of millions of readers around the world for generations and earned her unique and lasting distinction in Oregon history and culture.

Adopted by House April 29, 2021

Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate June 8, 2021

Peter Courtney, President of Senate