

**Introduced by Senators Romero and Kehoe**

April 19, 2006

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Senate Resolution No. 29—Relative to Senator Rose Ann Vuich.

1 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich blazed a trail for  
2 women in the California Legislature by being the first woman  
3 elected to the State Senate; and

4 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich was first elected to the  
5 Senate in 1976 and she served four consecutive terms through  
6 1992; and

7 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich was a  
8 second-generation Serbian-American from the small farm town  
9 of Dinuba, in Tulare County, California; and

10 WHEREAS, Before her election to the Senate, Senator Rose  
11 Ann Vuich had distinguished careers as a farmer, President of the  
12 Dinuba Chamber of Commerce, a tax accountant, an estate  
13 planner, and an office manager; and

14 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich was an expert in  
15 agricultural development and international trade and chaired the  
16 Legislature’s Rural Caucus and the Senate Banking, Commerce  
17 and International Trade Committee; and

18 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich authored California’s  
19 Agricultural Export Finance Program, which became a national  
20 model; and

21 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich authored legislation that  
22 created California’s former Trade and Commerce Agency; and

23 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich was the only woman in  
24 the California Senate for two years and she served as the Senate’s  
25 female conscience by keeping a small porcelain bell on her  
26 Senate floor desk, which she would ring whenever a colleague

1 addressed the “gentlemen” of the Senate, as a reminder that a  
2 gentlewoman was present in the chambers; and

3 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich was a person of  
4 integrity who took her public responsibilities very seriously and  
5 gave her constituents fair, ethical consideration of issues and  
6 conscientious, cost-effective delivery of service; and

7 WHEREAS, Senator Rose Ann Vuich’s tenure in the  
8 California State Senate marked the beginning of positive change  
9 by paving the way for future women legislators who have joined  
10 her legacy and, in this regard, there are currently 12 women in  
11 the Senate and 25 in the Assembly; and

12 WHEREAS, The restroom near the Senate Chamber was  
13 designated “The Rose Room” in Senator Vuich’s honor and in  
14 deference to the fact that there was no restroom nearby for her to  
15 use, and it is the only room in the Capitol named after a woman;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The California Room, room 4203, is named after  
18 the Honorable John Burton, the podium in the Senate Chamber is  
19 named after the Honorable Ralph Dills who presided over the  
20 Senate for many years, the Members’ lounge is named after the  
21 Honorable Ken Maddy, the Speaker’s conference room is named  
22 after the Honorable Willie Brown, former speaker of the  
23 Assembly, room 4202 is named after the Honorable Jesse Unruh,  
24 also a former Speaker of the Assembly, and room 3162 is named  
25 after the Honorable Tom Bane who chaired the Assembly  
26 Committee on Rules; now, therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California,* That a more  
28 suitable room in the Capitol than the restroom should also be  
29 designated in honor of Senator Rose Ann Vuich to appropriately  
30 reflect her stature and legacy in the Senate; and be it further

31 *Resolved,* That hearing room 2040 shall be hereafter and  
32 forever known as the Rose Ann Vuich Hearing Room; and be it  
33 further

34 *Resolved,* That an appropriate plaque shall be placed in the  
35 hearing room in honor of the Honorable Rose Ann Vuich; and be  
36 it further

37 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate provide copies of  
38 this resolution to the authors for appropriate distribution.

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