

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 96

Introduced by Assembly Member Baugh

January 3, 2000

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 96—Relative to the retirement of Charles M. Schulz.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 96, as introduced, Baugh. Charles M. Schulz.

Commends cartoonist Charles M. Schulz upon his retirement.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Cartoonist Charles M. Schulz, 77, creator
2 of the "Peanuts" comic strip, has announced that he will
3 retire effective with the daily release of Monday, January
4 3, 2000, after nearly 50 years; and

5 WHEREAS, A man of modest origins, born in St. Paul,
6 Minnesota, on November 26, 1922, Schulz would have
7 seemed unlikely to achieve international acclaim; and

8 WHEREAS, Schulz was drafted into the Army during
9 World War II before successfully selling any of his
10 cartoons; and

11 WHEREAS, For Charles Schulz, military life provided
12 both a welcomed change of pace and a shocking
13 confirmation that life would never be the same again; and

14 WHEREAS, It was in the service that Schulz developed
15 the confidence and work ethic that enable his success
16 today; and



1 WHEREAS, He excelled as an infantryman, a staff
2 sergeant, and the leader of a machinegun squad; and

3 WHEREAS, For the most part, Schulz's artistic
4 aspirations were put on hold during his years in the
5 service, but he did become known as the resident
6 illustrator and he dutifully decorated soldiers' letters
7 home with cartoons of barracks life; and

8 WHEREAS, "Peanuts," with its simple drawing style,
9 gentle humor, and universal themes, debuted in seven
10 newspapers on October 2, 1950; and

11 WHEREAS, "Peanuts" went on to become one of the
12 most successful comics in history, spawning 1,400 books,
13 50 animated television specials, four feature films, and a
14 Broadway musical; and

15 WHEREAS, It also brought Schulz a host of honors,
16 including two Reuben awards from the National
17 Cartoonists Society, five Emmy and two Peabody awards,
18 the rank of Commander of Arts and Letters from the
19 French government for excellence in the arts, and
20 induction into the Cartoonists' Hall of Fame; and

21 WHEREAS, "Peanuts" is easily the world's most
22 popular comic strip, running daily in about 2,600
23 newspapers, in 75 countries; and

24 WHEREAS, Sparky, as Schulz likes to be called,
25 single-handedly designs, researches, writes, and draws
26 every panel and strip that appear in daily and Sunday
27 newspapers around the world, and has never missed a day
28 in the funny pages; and

29 WHEREAS, Through the genius of Charles M. Schulz,
30 Snoopy, Charlie Brown, Linus, and Lucy have become
31 some of the most widely recognized and beloved
32 characters in the world; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the*
34 *Senate thereof concurring,* That the Members of the
35 Legislature extend their hearty thanks to Charles M.
36 Schulz for the countless moments of joy he has brought
37 into our lives, and wish him, his wife Jeannie, and his five
38 children all the best the world can bring on his retirement
39 from such a long and noteworthy career; and be it further



1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
2 transmit a suitably prepared copy of this resolution to Mr.
3 Charles M. Schulz.

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