

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4—ASSEMBLYMEN
FRIERSON; ELLIOT ANDERSON, PAUL ANDERSON, ARAUJO,
BENITEZ-THOMPSON, BILBRAY-AXELROD, BROOKS,
BUSTAMANTE ADAMS, CARLTON, CARRILLO, COHEN,
DALY, DIAZ, EDWARDS, ELLISON, FLORES, FUMO,
HAMBRICK, HANSEN, JAUREGUI, JOINER, KRAMER,
KRASNER, MARCHANT, MCARTHUR, MCCURDY II,
MILLER, MONROE-MORENO, NEAL, OHRENSCHALL,
OSCARSON, PICKARD, SPIEGEL, SPRINKLE, SWANK,
THOMPSON, TITUS, TOLLES, WATKINS, WHEELER,
WOODBURY AND YEAGER

MARCH 2, 2017

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS PARKS; ATKINSON, CANCELA,
CANNIZZARO, DENIS, FARLEY, FORD, GANSERT,
GOICOECHEA, GUSTAVSON, HAMMOND, HARDY, HARRIS,
KIECKHEFER, MANENDO, RATTI, ROBERSON, SEGERBLOM,
SETTELMAYER, SPEARMAN AND WOODHOUSE

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Celebrates the life of former Assemblyman Bernie
Anderson. (BDR R-862)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Celebrating the
life of former Assemblyman Bernie Anderson.

- 1 WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature on this day
- 2 remember and celebrate the life of an esteemed colleague and
- 3 dedicated public servant, former State Assemblyman Bernie
- 4 Anderson; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Bernard J. Anderson Jr. was born on May 15, 1942,
- 6 to proud Irish Catholics Bernard and Beatrice Anderson, of Sparks,
- 7 Nevada; and
- 8 WHEREAS, After graduating from Bishop Manogue Catholic
- 9 High School and the University of Nevada, Bernie Anderson began



1 teaching government and history in the Reno/Sparks area, a career
2 to which he dedicated more than 30 years of his life; and

3 WHEREAS, Teaching was not just a job, it was a passion for
4 Bernie Anderson and he devoted great effort to ensure his students
5 understood the importance of democracy and to share with them his
6 love for this country; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1990, Bernie Anderson began his political career,
8 being elected to serve in the Nevada State Assembly, thereafter
9 representing the people of the City of Sparks, Nevada, in Assembly
10 District No. 31 for more than 20 years in the Nevada Legislature,
11 most notably as Chairman of the Assembly Judiciary Committee
12 and serving honorably in various other leadership positions,
13 including Majority Whip and Speaker Pro Tempore; and

14 WHEREAS, Although as Chairman of the Assembly Judiciary
15 Committee, Bernie Anderson was a stickler for decorum and known
16 for the efficiency with which he led his committee, as it routinely
17 considered and processed more bills than any other legislative
18 committee he always ensured that the voices of all Nevadans were
19 heard; and

20 WHEREAS, The “Woodshed” located in the offices of Chairman
21 Anderson became infamous to those working with the Judiciary
22 Committee as a place where they would be called upon to answer
23 for their actions or to participate in the mediation of difficult issues,
24 an effective tool which others continue to try to emulate today; and

25 WHEREAS, Bernie Anderson’s knowledge of the legislative
26 process was unparalleled and he took great delight in teaching and
27 mentoring other Legislators; and

28 WHEREAS, Bernie Anderson’s concerted effort to wear a tie
29 each day to match the subjects or occasions being considered at the
30 Legislature was more than a fashion statement, it was subtle notice
31 that he was aware of the legislative agenda for the day and was
32 willing to meet those challenges; and

33 WHEREAS, Even though Bernie Anderson’s first loyalty was to
34 his constituents in the City of Sparks, he believed that as a public
35 servant he was responsible to work toward the good of all Nevadans
36 and always considered the impact of legislation as a whole; and

37 WHEREAS, Of the many issues Bernie worked on as a
38 Legislator, he was proudest of his work in creating Nevada’s first
39 Drug Courts and combating domestic violence; and

40 WHEREAS, This longtime educator brought life to his curriculum
41 by such actions as dressing up as historic characters to interact with
42 his high school students, and peppering his legislative floor
43 speeches with examples of courage shown by the Founding Fathers
44 during the Revolutionary War; and



1 WHEREAS, Bernie Anderson had an incomparable ability to
2 combine humor with public policy, as illustrated most notably when
3 he would wear the hat from Cat in the Hat around the halls of the
4 Legislature on March 2nd, the birthdate of Dr. Seuss, and read
5 excerpts of the books on the floor of the Assembly to honor the
6 author and emphasize the importance and joy of reading; and

7 WHEREAS, In addition to serving the citizens of Nevada as an
8 educator and Legislator, Bernie was also a Staff Sergeant E-6 in the
9 Nevada Army National Guard from 1960 to 1967, and in 2007 was
10 honored with the Charles Dick Medal of Merit in recognition of his
11 service to the National Guard; and

12 WHEREAS, Even above his love of teaching, legislative service,
13 trains and the City of Sparks, was his love for and respect of his
14 wife Clyda and their two daughters, Cairn and Natha Clyde — the
15 mere mention of their names would light up his face; and

16 WHEREAS, Bernard J. Anderson Jr. will long be remembered as
17 a devoted husband, father and grandfather, an outstanding public
18 servant and one of the greatest advocates for Sparks and Washoe
19 County; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
21 SENATE CONCURRING, That the members of the 79th Session of the
22 Nevada Legislature remember and celebrate the life of Bernard J.
23 Anderson Jr. on this day and extend their deepest condolences to
24 Bernie's cherished wife Clyda, and daughters Cairn and Natha; and
25 be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
27 transmit copies of this resolution to Assemblyman Anderson's
28 beloved wife and daughters.

