

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1081

By Coley

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Ralph A. Rossum for his professional achievements as an educator.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes pride in honoring those esteemed individuals who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ralph A. Rossum is one such noteworthy person, who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, a renowned professor of constitutional law and interpretation, the American founding, criminal justice and procedure, and the Constitution and Native American tribes, Dr. Rossum's illustrious academic career encompasses some fifty years of expertise; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ralph Rossum is a *summa cum laude* graduate of Concordia College, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1968; in 1971, he earned his Master of Arts degree from the University of Chicago, from which he also completed his Ph.D. in 1973; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rossum currently serves as Henry Salvatori Professor of Political Philosophy and American Constitutionalism (with tenure) at Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, California, and as a member of the graduate faculty at Claremont Graduate University, positions he has held since 1994; and

WHEREAS, he began his professional career as an instructor of behavioral sciences at Chicago City Colleges, Department of Police Academy Services, where he served from 1970 to 1971, and he was an instructor in the Department of Political Science at Grinnell College from 1972 to 1973; Dr. Rossum joined the staff of Memphis State University in 1973, serving as an assistant professor until 1977 and as an associate professor in the Department of Political Science from 1977 to 1980, with tenure granted in 1978; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Dr. Rossum accepted the position of associate professor in the Department of Political Science at Loyola University of Chicago and became associate dean of the graduate school the following year; he was granted tenure in 1982 and served at the university until 1983; and

WHEREAS, during the summer of 1987, Dr. Ralph Rossum team-taught a course on the American founding with Justice Antonin Scalia at the University of Aix-Marseilles Law School, Aix-en-Provence, France, in association with the Louisiana State University Law Center; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rossum has ably served the students of Claremont McKenna College in a number of capacities, including as vice president and dean of the faculty, 1988 to 1991, director of the Henry Salvatori Center for the Study of Freedom in the Modern World, 1984 to 1989, Alice Tweed Tuohy Professor of Government and Ethics, 1984 to 1988, and as a tenured member of the graduate faculty of the Claremont Graduate School, 1984 to 1991; and

WHEREAS, his notable faculty assignments also include terms as president and professor of political science at Hampden-Sydney College, 1991 to 1992, visiting professor in the Department of Government at Claremont McKenna College, 1992 to 1993, the Fletcher Jones Professor of American Politics (with tenure) at the University of Redlands, 1993 to 1994, and visiting scholar with The Liberty Fund, Indianapolis, Indiana, July to December 1998; and

WHEREAS, an active and dynamic member of his profession, Dr. Rossum has served, in part, as consulting editor of *Perspectives on Political Science*, 1983 to 2010; consulting editor of *Current*, 1990 to 2010; member of the editorial board, *Citizens and Statesmen*, 2005 to 2012; member of the editorial advisory board, *The Public Interest Law Review*, 1988 to 1995; senior editor of *Benchmark*, 1983 to 1986, and research editor, 1986 to 1992; review panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1984 to present; and review panelist, National Institute of Justice, 1985 to present; and

WHEREAS, called upon for his singular skills and exemplary character, Dr. Ralph Rossum estimably served as a member of the California Advisory Committee, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 2011 to 2016; member of the Council of Scholars, American Academy of Liberal

Education, 1994 to 1997, and chairman, 1997 to 2008; member of the board of trustees, American Academy of Liberal Education, 1997 to 2011, and chairman, 2009 to 2011; member of the National Board of the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 2002 to 2005; member of the board of advisors, American Friends Fund, Institute of United States Studies, University of London, 1992 to 2003; member of the legal policy advisory board, Washington Legal Foundation, 1988 to 2001; member of the council for Californians in Congress Recognition Program, 1988 to 1993; member of the National Institute of Corrections Advisory Board, U.S. Department of Justice, 1988 to 1991; member of the Robert Presley Institute of Corrections Research and Training, State of California, 1988 to 1990; and member of the board of trustees, The Episcopal Theological School of Claremont, Claremont, California, 1987 to 1991; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, this devoted professional is the recipient of numerous honors, including Phi Beta Kappa; *Who's Who in America*, annual editions, 1988 to present; *Who's Who in the World*, 2007 to present; the four-year Ford Foundation Doctoral Fellowship, 1968 to 1972; the Tozer Foundation Fellowship, 1968; and the Pi Gamma Mu Fellowship, 1968; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rossum is also a widely published author of numerous books, scholarly journal articles, and monographs, and a prolific conference panelist and presenter; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Dr. Ralph Rossum is most thankful for the love and support he shares with his wife, Constance Rossum, and their three children; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Rossum has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Dr. Ralph Rossum for his manifold achievements as an educator, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.