

House Resolution

No. 65

Introduced by Assembly Member Wesson

July 10, 2002

House Resolution No. 65—Relative to commending the Honorable George C. Runner, Jr.

1 WHEREAS, The tenure of the Honorable George C. Runner,
2 Jr., with the California State Assembly is drawing to a close
3 following six years of exemplary service, and it is appropriate at
4 this time to highlight the many achievements of his illustrious
5 career and to extend to him the highest commendations of the
6 people of the state; and

7 WHEREAS, Elected to the California State Assembly in 1996,
8 George Runner represented the 36th Assembly District, which
9 includes the cities of Lancaster, Palmdale, and Santa Clarita in Los
10 Angeles County; and

11 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Runner brought distinction to
12 himself on the Assembly Republican leadership team, first as
13 Minority Whip, and then as Vice Chair of the Assembly Budget
14 Committee for four consecutive years; and

15 WHEREAS, He has served on the Assembly Committees on
16 Appropriations, Health, and Housing and Community
17 Development and as a member of the Joint Committee on Fairs
18 Allocation and Classification and was appointed to the Select
19 Committee on Aerospace Industry, the Select Committee on
20 Long-Term Planning for Commercial and General Aviation
21 Airport Capacity, and the Joint Committee to Develop a Master
22 Plan for Education; and

1 WHEREAS, Among Assembly Member Runner’s successful
2 legislative measures include his Categorical Reform bill, a pilot
3 project which streamlines how funds are designated based on a
4 school’s individualized needs; the Military Family bill, which
5 provides a permanent exemption from nonresident tuition at all
6 University of California, California State University, and
7 California Community Colleges for active military personnel and
8 their families; his HOV Lane bill, which made the High
9 Occupancy Vehicle lanes on State Route 14 available to
10 single-occupant drivers during noncommuter hours; the Joint
11 Strike Fighter tax credit, which provides \$250 million in tax
12 credits for wages and equipment used in the production of the Joint
13 Strike Fighter; and Proposition 11, authored by Assembly Member
14 Runner in 1998, to allow local governments to enter into sales tax
15 revenue sharing agreements; and

16 WHEREAS, Many California groups and organizations have
17 recognized Assembly Member Runner’s leadership, and his most
18 recent honors include his designation as 2000 Legislator of the
19 Year by the California Network of Educational Charters, Council
20 of College and Military Educators, League of California Cities,
21 and California State University, and 2000 Outstanding Legislator
22 of the Year by the California State Sheriff’s Association; and

23 WHEREAS, Prior to his election to the California State
24 Assembly, George Runner was a member of the Lancaster City
25 Council and served as Vice Mayor and Mayor, whereupon during
26 his mayoral term the California Business Journal named Lancaster
27 California’s No. 1 mid-size city with which to do business; and

28 WHEREAS, In 1977 he founded Desert Christian Schools, one
29 of the largest private, interdenominational preschool through high
30 schools in the state, and he currently is Chairman of the Board; and

31 WHEREAS, After attending local public schools in Lancaster,
32 George Runner graduated from the University of Redlands with a
33 Bachelor of Science degree in business management and he holds
34 a graduate certificate in management from Azusa Pacific
35 University; and

36 WHEREAS, He has held many local leadership positions, such
37 as President of the League of California Cities, Desert/Mountain
38 Division, member of the Board of the Lancaster Economic
39 Development Corporation, and Antelope Valley YMCA, and he is
40 a member of the Lancaster Rotary Club; and



1 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Runner and his wife Sharon
2 are the proud parents of two children, a son, Micah, and a daughter,
3 Rebekah; and

4 WHEREAS, Through his public service activities he has made
5 a significant impact on the people of the 36th Assembly District
6 and throughout the state, and he will be greatly missed by those
7 individuals with whom he has been associated; now, therefore, be
8 it

9 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California,* That the
10 Members express their commendations and appreciation to their
11 colleague, the Honorable George C. Runner, Jr., for his
12 outstanding record of dedicated service to his constituents and to
13 all of the people of California, and convey to him best wishes for
14 every success in his future endeavors.

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