

House Resolution

No. 82

Introduced by Assembly Member Wesson

July 25, 2002

House Resolution No. 82—Relative to commending the Honorable Roy Ashburn.

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

6 WHEREAS, Elected to the California State Assembly in 1996
7 to represent the 32nd District, which includes Kern and Tulare
8 Counties, Roy Ashburn brought with him to the Capitol 12 years
9 of experience obtained as a Kern County Supervisor; and

10 WHEREAS, As a Member of the Assembly, Roy Ashburn
11 tackled a number of important issues facing local cities and
12 counties, as well as the state, and his efforts focused on reforming
13 California’s welfare system, reducing crime and increasing public
14 safety, and cutting taxes and advocating for greater local control,
15 and he also pioneered California’s effort in developing the Valley
16 Fever Vaccine Research Project; and

17 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Ashburn’s legislative work is
18 highlighted by his leadership in authoring California’s
19 “Welfare-to-Work Act of 1997”; and

20 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Ashburn was instrumental in
21 securing state funding to develop a vaccine against Valley Fever,
22 and he successfully secured several million dollars for the Valley

1 Fever Vaccine Research Project in his authorship of Assembly
2 Bills 1910, 1205, and 1955; and

3 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Ashburn, who represented one
4 of the leading dairy-producing counties in the nation, successfully
5 authored measures to promote California's dairy industry,
6 including its milk, cheese, and ice cream products, and at the time,
7 one of the bills, Assembly Bill 1525, was identified by the Wall
8 Street Journal as one of the most important measures of that
9 particular legislative session, and the resulting marketing
10 campaigns included "It's the Cheese" and "Got Milk"; and

11 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Ashburn successfully
12 advocated for a reduction of the vehicle license fee, which resulted
13 in more than \$1 billion in tax relief for Californians, and amid
14 controversy associated with an Oracle Corporation contract he
15 introduced legislation to prevent the state from making any
16 payments on the \$95 million contract; and

17 WHEREAS, As a champion of local cities and counties,
18 Assembly Member Ashburn introduced legislation to reform the
19 Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund, legislation that would
20 have required the state to return more local property tax dollars to
21 local jurisdictions; and

22 WHEREAS, In the area of public safety, he introduced "Project
23 Peacemaker," a bill that would provide funding to local law
24 enforcement to attack illegal gun use and possession, and the
25 "Justice for Children Act," which would sentence criminals to the
26 death penalty for taking the life of a child; and

27 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Ashburn provided stellar
28 leadership as Vice Chair of the Assembly Committee on
29 Appropriations, the Assembly Committee on Elections and
30 Reappointment, and the Assembly Committee on Human
31 Services, and as a member of a number of committees, including
32 Joint Legislative Budget, Jobs and Economic Development,
33 Education, and Water, Parks and Wildlife; and

34 WHEREAS, A member of the Assembly's Republican
35 leadership team, he served in a number of top positions, including
36 Assistant Republican Leader and the Republican leader on welfare
37 reform and on reapportionment; and

38 WHEREAS, Roy Ashburn earned a degree in public
39 administration from California State University, Bakersfield, and
40 he has been active in the community as President of the San



1 Joaquin Valley Supervisor’s Association and Director of the
2 California State Association of Counties, Director of the Coalition
3 for Private Property Rights, a founder of the Kern Transportation
4 Foundation, and a member of the Kern County Board of
5 Retirement; and

6 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Ashburn and his wife, Diane,
7 reside in Bakersfield with their four daughters, Shelley, Shannon,
8 Stacy, and Suzannah; and

9 WHEREAS, Through his public service activities he has made
10 a significant impact on the people of the 32nd Assembly District
11 and throughout the state, and he will be greatly missed by those
12 individuals with whom he has been associated; now, therefore, be
13 it

14 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
15 Members express their commendations and appreciation to their
16 colleague, the Honorable Roy Ashburn, for his outstanding record
17 of dedicated service to his constituents and to all of the people of
18 California, and convey to him best wishes for every success in his
19 future endeavors.

