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ACR-195 Vin Scully. (2015-2016)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 195

CHAPTER 99

Relative to Vin Scully.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 10, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 195, Holden. Vin Scully.

This measure would recognize the legendary career of Vincent Edward "Vin" Scully.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, Vincent Edward "Vin" Scully was born in the Bronx, New York City on November 29, 1927. At an early age, Vin Scully became fascinated with football broadcasts on the radio and decided that he wanted to become a sports announcer; and

WHEREAS, After serving in the United States Navy for two years, Vin Scully began his career as a student broadcaster and journalist at Fordham University. While at Fordham, Scully played outfield for two seasons on Fordham's baseball team and called baseball, basketball, and football games for the university's radio station; and

WHEREAS, Vin Scully was recruited in 1949 by Red Barber, the sports director of the CBS Radio Network, for the network's college football coverage. In 1950, Scully joined Hall of Fame announcers Red Barber and Connie Desmond as part of the Brooklyn Dodgers' broadcast team, only a year after graduating from Fordham. In 1953, Scully replaced Barber for the 1953 World Series coverage. At the age of 25, Scully became the youngest person to broadcast a World Series game, a record that stands to this day; and

WHEREAS, During the 1954 season, Vin Scully became the Brooklyn Dodgers' principal announcer. Scully announced Dodger games in Brooklyn until 1957. After the club moved to Los Angeles for the 1958 season, Scully quickly became popular in southern California; and

WHEREAS, In his illustrious career, Vin Scully has worked with many accomplished broadcast partners, including Jerry Doggett, Ross Porter, Don Drysdale, Sonny Jurgensen, Alex Hawkins, George Allen, Jim Brown, John Madden, Hank Stram, Pat Summerall, Curt Gowdy, Ken Venturi, Ben Wright, Brent Musburger, and Sparky Anderson. Scully has worked for major broadcast networks, including CBS, ABC, and NBC, covering Major League Baseball, the National Football League, and the PGA Tour; and

WHEREAS, In 1982, 32 years after he first became a Dodger broadcaster, Vin Scully reached the pinnacle of his immaculate career in baseball when he was inducted into the Broadcaster's Wing of the National Baseball Hall of Fame as a Ford C. Frick Award recipient. In addition to this award, Scully has received a Lifetime Achievement Sports Emmy Award for sportscasting as well as multiple other lifetime achievement awards and hall of fame inductions relative to broadcasting and sportscasting; and

WHEREAS, On September 5, 2014, Bud Selig presented Vin Scully with the Major League Baseball Commissioner's Historic Achievement Award, which was created to recognize accomplishments and contributions of historical significance to the game of baseball. Scully was the 14th recipient and second nonplayer to receive the award, after Rachel Robinson; and

WHEREAS, The California Sports Hall of Fame inducted Vin Scully in 2008. On May 11, 2009, Scully was awarded the Ambassador Award of Excellence by the Los Angeles Sports and Entertainment Commission. Scully has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, has the press box at Dodger Stadium named on his behalf, served as Grand Marshal for the 2014 Tournament of Roses Parade, and has had Elysian Park Avenue renamed to Vin Scully Avenue in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Vin Scully hosted President Ronald Reagan during the 1989 Major League Baseball All-Star Game. Scully has also hosted the charity event "Scully and Wooden, For the Kids" with legendary University of California, Los Angeles basketball coach John Wooden, an event that benefited the Pediatric Cancer Programs at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA and pediatric cancer research at Children's Hospital Los Angeles and City of Hope. Scully has participated in multiple events with ThinkCure, the Dodgers' charity organization that raises funds to promote collaborative research to cure cancer; and

WHEREAS, Vin Scully's descriptions of baseball games have thrilled fans for years. Scully's 67 seasons with the Dodgers is the longest time any broadcaster has been with a single team in professional sports history. Scully is known for his smooth and lyrical voice, vivid and descriptive style, and ability to weave anecdotes between his play-by-play of the ballgame. Scully's signature introduction to Dodger games is beloved by Dodger fans across California: "It's time for Dodger baseball!"; and

WHEREAS, Vin Scully and his wife, Sandra, reside in Los Angeles; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature recognizes the legendary career of Vincent Edward "Vin" Scully, the embodiment of the artistic spirit of California; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.