

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-25

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 7, 2023

To recognize and acknowledge Washington, D.C. native William Sanford Nye, popularly known as “Bill Nye the Science Guy” for his accomplishments as a mechanical engineer, science educator, and television personality in advance of National Science Day February 28th.

WHEREAS, Bill Nye was born in Washington, D.C. on November 27, 1955;

WHEREAS, Nye graduated from Lafayette Elementary School and Alice Deal Middle School before receiving a scholarship to Sidwell Friends School, where he graduated in as a member of the class of 1973;

WHEREAS, Nye graduated from Cornell University with a B.S. in mechanical engineering in 1977;

WHEREAS, Nye began his career as a mechanical engineer for Boeing in Seattle, where he invented a hydraulic resonance suppressor tube used on 747 airplanes;

WHEREAS, after nearly 10 years on the stand up and sketch comedy scene, he resigned from Boeing in 1986 to pursue his promising comedy career;

WHEREAS, after making numerous appearances on local TV shows in the Seattle area, he successfully pitched the children's television program *Bill Nye the Science Guy* to Seattle's public television station, KCTS-TV;

WHEREAS, the show received critical acclaim, and became nationally syndicated in 1993, running for 5 years as one of the most-watched educational TV shoes in the United States;

WHEREAS, the show became noted for its "high-energy presentation and MTV-paced segments", and became a hit among kids and adults;

WHEREAS, *Bill Nye the Science Guy* achieved tremendous critical success and was nominated for 23 Emmy Awards, winning 19, including Outstanding Performer in Children's Programming for Nye himself;

WHEREAS, following the success of *Bill Nye the Science Guy*, Nye has continued to advocate for science, becoming the CEO of The Planetary Society and writing two bestselling books on

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science: *Undeniable: Evolution and the Science of Creation* (2014) and *Unstoppable: Harnessing Science to Change the World* (2015);

WHEREAS, Nye continues to promote a brilliant mixture of comedy and science education via his frequent television appearances such as *Dancing with the Stars*, *The Big Bang Theory*, and *Inside Amy Schumer*.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, T hat this resolution may be cited as the “William Sanford Nye Recognition Resolution of 2023”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors William Sanford Nye for his scientific contributions and creative approach to increase education, curiosity, and awareness in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.