

SENATE RESOLUTION
8720

By Senators McDermott, Regala, Kauffman, Rasmussen, Brandland, McAuliffe, Kline, Oemig, Tom, Weinstein, Eide, Fraser, Haugen, Spanel, Kohl-Welles, Pflug, and Hatfield

WHEREAS, Julius Pierpont Patches is fondly known by thousands as J.P. Patches; and

WHEREAS, Chris Wedes has been J.P. Patches for fifty years; and

WHEREAS, The J.P. Patches show aired on KIRO, Channel 7 television for twenty-three years, the first time on February 8, 1958, fifty years ago today; and

WHEREAS, The J.P. Patches show was the longest-running, locally produced children's program in the United States; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Patches, along with Gertrude, Ketchikan the Animal Man, the Swami of Pastrami, Ggoorrsstt the Friendly Frpl, and countless others, entertained children twice a day for 13 years (plus Saturdays), another 8 years on mornings only, and on Saturday morning only for another 2 years, totaling approximately 10,000 hours of on-air clowning around; and

WHEREAS, Generations of viewers grew up as "Patches Pals," sharing the joyful, zany antics of J.P. with their children; and

WHEREAS, The show was live, unrehearsed improvisation; and

WHEREAS, At the peak of its run, the Emmy award-winning program had a viewership of over 100,000 in its local markets; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Patches was "Mayor of the City Dump"; and

WHEREAS, The roster of "Patches Pals" is long and varied, and contains many notable names; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Patches not only entertained through television, he remains a common sight at Children's Hospital and other hospitals in the area, visiting sick children and promoting the work of the hospital; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Patches has made countless fundraising appearances for a variety of charities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate honor J.P. Patches and his alter ego Chris Wedes for the wholesome, family-oriented entertainment that he has consistently provided for 50 years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to J.P. Patches (Chris Wedes).

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate,
do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8720,
adopted by the Senate
February 8, 2008

THOMAS HOEMANN
Secretary of the Senate