

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 66 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY STAATS, SANTORA, NEILSON, HENNESSEY, DIGIROLAMO, CORBIN, CAUSER, COX, WARD, BAKER, MACKENZIE, GODSHALL, BURNS, KAUFFMAN, KNOWLES, RYAN, SACCONI, MURT, O'NEILL, JAMES, GREINER, SONNEY, DUSH, PHILLIPS-HILL, DOWLING, PEIFER, ROTHMAN, READSHAW, WATSON, MENTZER, D. COSTA, B. MILLER, MCGINNIS, FEE, OBERLANDER, MARSICO, MILLARD, A. HARRIS, FARRY, RADER, BOBACK, M. QUINN, KORTZ, MILNE, SIMMONS, METCALFE, SAYLOR, SCHEMEL, HEFFLEY, GABLER AND ZIMMERMAN, FEBRUARY 6, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, FEBRUARY 6, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of former President of the United States,  
2 Ronald Wilson Reagan.

3 WHEREAS, Ronald Wilson Reagan was born on February 6, 1911,  
4 in northern Illinois to Nelle and John Reagan; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Reagan attended Eureka College, where he earned  
6 a degree in economics in 1932, was elected student body  
7 president and led a student revolt against the college president  
8 after the college president tried to cut back the number of  
9 faculty members; and

10 WHEREAS, While working as an announcer for the Chicago Cubs  
11 Mr. Reagan took a screen test that landed him a seven-year  
12 contract with Warner Brothers; and

13 WHEREAS, On May 25, 1937, Mr. Reagan enlisted in the United  
14 States Army Reserve and was commissioned a second lieutenant in

1 the Officers Reserve Corps of the cavalry; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Reagan was ordered to active duty in April 1942,  
3 however he was not permitted to go overseas due to poor  
4 eyesight, so he served in several capacities until he separated  
5 from active duty on December 9, 1945; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Reagan was nominated president of the Screen  
7 Actors Guild (SAG) in a special election in 1947 and was chosen  
8 to serve seven additional one-year terms from 1947-1952 and in  
9 1959; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Reagan led SAG through labor-management  
11 disputes, the Taft-Hartley Act, the House Un-American Activities  
12 Committee hearings and the Hollywood Blacklist era; and

13 WHEREAS, On March 4, 1952, Reagan married Nancy Davis with  
14 whom he had two children; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1962, Mr. Reagan, a life-long Democrat, became a  
16 Republican and emerged as a leading conservative spokesman in  
17 the Goldwater campaign of 1964; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1966, Mr. Reagan was elected Governor of  
19 California where in his first term he froze government hiring  
20 and approved tax hikes to balance the budget; and

21 WHEREAS, Despite an effort to recall Mr. Reagan in 1968, he  
22 was re-elected Governor in 1970; and

23 WHEREAS, In 1968 and 1976, Mr. Reagan unsuccessfully ran for  
24 the Republican nomination for President of the United States;  
25 and

26 WHEREAS, In 1980, Mr. Reagan ran against incumbent Jimmy  
27 Carter and became the oldest person to be elected to the office  
28 of President of the United States, a record he held until Donald  
29 Trump was elected in November 2016; and

30 WHEREAS, Mr. Reagan served as President from 1981 to 1989;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, During his first term, Mr. Reagan survived an  
3 assassination attempt, spurred the war on drugs and fought  
4 public sector labor; and

5 WHEREAS, When Mr. Reagan won his second term, he won 49 of 50  
6 states and a record 525 electoral votes, the most of any  
7 candidate in United States history; and

8 WHEREAS, The only state Mr. Reagan lost was Minnesota; and

9 WHEREAS, When Mr. Reagan left office after two terms, he held  
10 an approval rating of 68%; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1994, Mr. Reagan announced that he was suffering  
12 from Alzheimer's disease; and

13 WHEREAS, Ronald Wilson Reagan passed away on June 5, 2004;  
14 therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life of  
16 former President Ronald Wilson Reagan.