
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 717 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY STAATS, MURT, RYAN, SONNEY, GREINER, METCALFE,
PYLE, BURNS, KNOWLES, JAMES, COX, KAUFFMAN, BROWN, SCHMITT,
ROTHMAN, BARRAR, MACKENZIE, MENTZER, DUSH, MILLARD, PEIFER,
MOUL, ZIMMERMAN, SCHLEGEL CULVER AND OWLETT, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

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
15 the Officers Reserve Corps of the cavalry; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Reagan was ordered to active duty in April 1942,
17 however he was not permitted to go overseas due to poor

1 eyesight, so he served in several capacities until he separated
2 from active duty on December 9, 1945; and

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

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

10 WHEREAS, On March 4, 1952, Mr. Reagan married Nancy Davis
11 with whom he had two children; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1962, Mr. Reagan, a lifelong Democrat, became a
13 Republican and emerged as a leading conservative spokesman in
14 the Goldwater campaign of 1964; and

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

18 WHEREAS, Despite an effort to recall Mr. Reagan in 1968, he
19 was reelected Governor in 1970; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1968 and 1976, Mr. Reagan unsuccessfully ran for
21 the Republican nomination for President of the United States;
22 and

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

27 WHEREAS, Mr. Reagan served as President from 1981 to 1989;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, During his first term, Mr. Reagan survived an
30 assassination attempt, spurred the war on drugs and fought

1 public sector labor; and

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

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

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

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

10 WHEREAS, Ronald Wilson Reagan passed away on June 5, 2004;
11 therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life of
13 former President Ronald Wilson Reagan.