



HJ0091

LRB100 16457 MST 31586 r

1

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, Ronald Wilson Reagan "Dutch" (1911-2004), the
3 40th President of the United States, is the only U.S. President
4 born, raised, and educated in the State of Illinois; and

5

WHEREAS, President Reagan was born on February 6, 1911 in
6 Tampico; his family lived for a time in Chicago, Galesburg, and
7 Monmouth, before settling in Dixon; he earned his degree in
8 economics and sociology from Eureka College in Central Illinois
9 in 1932; after college, he started as a radio sports announcer
10 in the Quad Cities; and

11

WHEREAS, President Reagan moved to Hollywood and achieved
12 success as a film and television actor, union president for the
13 Screen Actors Guild, and as corporate spokesman for General
14 Electric; he moved into politics and spent two terms as
15 Governor of California (1967-1975) and two terms as President
16 of the United States (1981-1989); and

17

WHEREAS, President Reagan returned to his home State
18 throughout every stage of his life; he visited his birthplace,
19 his hometown, and his alma mater, Eureka College; he never
20 forgot his Illinois and Midwestern roots; and

21

WHEREAS, President Reagan's connection to Illinois is

1 celebrated all over the State; Eureka College is home to
2 "Reagan Forward" and the Ronald W. Reagan Society, whose
3 national membership helps fund scholarships for Reagan
4 Fellows, a museum, a peace garden, a speaker series, a Run with
5 Reagan 5k, and the Mark R. Shenkman Reagan Research Center,
6 housing every book on the 40th President; Dixon is home to the
7 Reagan Boyhood Home and the Dixon Historic Center, a riverfront
8 statue of him on a horse, the First Christian Church where he
9 was baptized, an annual festival, and the beach at Lowell Park
10 where he was a lifeguard; Tampico operates a museum and
11 historic site where visitors can stand in the apartment flat
12 where he was born and see a statue of him as a boy; a section of
13 Interstate 88 is named in his honor, and The Reagan Trail is a
14 designated tourism corridor connecting key points of his
15 Illinois experience; and

16 WHEREAS, President Reagan is remembered as one of the most
17 consequential world leaders of the 20th century; his commitment
18 to peace through strength helped in the defeat of the Soviet
19 Union, thus ending the Cold War and bringing greater freedom to
20 millions of people; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
22 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE
23 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we recognize and honor the impact
24 President Ronald Reagan had on the State, the country, and the

1 world; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That we request that the Architect of the Capitol
3 place a statue of President Reagan in the Illinois State
4 Capitol Building or on the surrounding grounds; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That the statue shall be funded with private
7 donations; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the Architect of the Capitol.