

HB 7161

2007

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Ronald Reagan Day; creating s. 683.26,
3 F.S.; designating February 6 as "Ronald Reagan Day";
4 authorizing the Governor to issue proclamations
5 commemorating the occasion; providing an effective date.
6

7 WHEREAS, President Ronald Wilson Reagan, a man of humble
8 background, worked throughout his life serving freedom and
9 advancing the public good, having distinguished himself during
10 his professional life as an entertainer, union leader, and
11 corporate spokesman before being elected Governor of California
12 and then President of the United States of America, and

13 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan served with honor and distinction
14 for two terms as the 40th President of the United States of
15 America, earning the distinction of being elected to his second
16 term of office by three-fifths of the electorate and by 49 of
17 the 50 states in the union, a record unsurpassed in the history
18 of American presidential elections, and

19 WHEREAS, in 1981, when Ronald Reagan was inaugurated as
20 President, he inherited a disillusioned nation that was shackled
21 by rampant inflation and high unemployment, and

22 WHEREAS, despite the difficult circumstances he inherited,
23 Ronald Reagan's approach to leading the nation was to exemplify
24 an unwavering faith in American ideals, most memorably by
25 invoking his long-held vision of America as "a shining city on a
26 hill," destined to realize an ever brighter future, and

27 WHEREAS, during his presidency, Ronald Reagan worked in a
28 bipartisan manner to enact his bold agenda of restoring

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29 | accountability and common sense to the Federal Government, which
30 | led to an unprecedented economic expansion and opportunity for
31 | millions of Americans, and

32 | WHEREAS, President Reagan's commitment to an active social
33 | policy agenda for the nation's children helped to lower crime
34 | and reduce drug use in our neighborhoods, and

35 | WHEREAS, President Reagan's commitment to our armed forces
36 | contributed to the restoration of pride in America and its
37 | values and those cherished by the free world and prepared the
38 | nation's armed forces to meet the challenges of the 21st
39 | century, and

40 | WHEREAS, President Reagan's vision of "peace through
41 | strength" led to the end of the Cold War and the ultimate demise
42 | of the Soviet Union, thus guaranteeing basic human rights for
43 | millions of people, and

44 | WHEREAS, February 6, 2007, was the 96th anniversary of
45 | Ronald Reagan's birth, and June 5, 2007, will mark the third
46 | anniversary of his passing, which generated an outpouring of
47 | love and respect unprecedented in a generation, NOW, THEREFORE,

48

49 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

50

51 | Section 1. Section 683.26, Florida Statutes, is created to
52 | read:

53 | 683.26 Ronald Reagan Day.--

54 | (1) February 6 of each year is designated as "Ronald
55 | Reagan Day."

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56 (2) The Governor may issue annually a proclamation
57 designating February 6 as "Ronald Reagan Day." Public officials,
58 schools, private organizations, and all citizens are encouraged
59 to honor the legacy of opportunity and optimism left by
60 America's 40th President by commemorating Ronald Reagan Day on
61 February 6 of each year.

62 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.