

By: Senator(s) Flowers

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 511

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING FORMER PRESIDENT RONALD
2 WILSON REAGAN FOR HIS PRESIDENCY AND EXTENDING THE SYMPATHY OF THE
3 LEGISLATURE ON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the
5 United States, was born on February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois,
6 to Nelle and John Reagan and raised in Dixon, Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, as a lifeguard at Rock River in Lowell, Illinois, a
8 young Ronald Reagan saved the lives of 77 swimmers; and

9 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan enrolled in Eureka College, where he
10 played football, acted in amateur theater and graduated with a
11 Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Sociology; and

12 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan landed his first job as a radio
13 announcer for WOC in Davenport, Iowa, and went on to become a
14 popular sports announcer; and

15 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan launched a movie career that spanned
16 50 movies, including his most famous role as the football legend
17 "The Gipper"; and

18 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan, who received more fan mail than any
19 other actor at Warner Brothers Studios except Errol Flynn, served
20 as President of the Screen Actors Guild from 1947 to 1960; and

21 WHEREAS, on March 4, 1952, Ronald Reagan married his great
22 love, Nancy Davis, who was to become his lifelong confidante and
23 companion; and

24 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan was the father of four children:
25 Maureen, Michael, Patti and Ronald Prescott; and

26 WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan hosted the popular television series
27 "GE Theater" from 1954 to 1962; and

28 WHEREAS, in 1962, Ronald Reagan switched his party
29 affiliation from Democrat to Republican and two years later
30 delivered a major televised speech in support of Presidential
31 candidate Barry Goldwater; and

32 WHEREAS, in 1966, Ronald Reagan won the governorship of
33 California and in 1970 was reelected to a second term; and

34 WHEREAS, Governor Reagan campaigned for the Republican
35 nomination in 1968 and again in 1976; and

36 WHEREAS, on July 16, 1980, the former Governor won the
37 Republican nomination and on November 4, 1980, won the United
38 States Presidency in a landslide vote; and

39 WHEREAS, President Reagan appointed the first woman to the
40 United States Supreme Court, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor; and

41 WHEREAS, on March 30, 1981, only two months into his
42 Presidency, Ronald Reagan survived an assassination attempt and
43 upon meeting Nancy in the hospital, quipped with characteristic
44 good humor, "Honey, I forgot to duck"; and

45 WHEREAS, President Reagan delivered on his promise to cut
46 taxes for American workers in 1981, and achieved the historic tax
47 cuts of 1986 which overhauled the Federal tax code and reduced tax
48 rates for almost all taxpayers, including removing 6,000,000
49 Americans from the tax rolls; and

50 WHEREAS, under President Reagan's leadership, inflation fell,
51 interest rates declined and by the seventh year of his Presidency,
52 the stock market hit an all-time high; and

53 WHEREAS, President Reagan presided over the longest economic
54 expansion in the history of the United States until that time and
55 rebuilt the national defenses of the United States; and

56 WHEREAS, President Reagan kicked off his reelection campaign
57 at the Neshoba County Fair to the delight of attendees, and he won
58 reelection in 1984 by carrying 49 out of 50 states, including
59 Mississippi, - one of the biggest electoral victories in the
60 political history of the United States; and

61 WHEREAS, during summit meetings with Soviet Union President
62 Mikhail Gorbachev in December 1987, President Reagan signed a
63 treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces; and

64 WHEREAS, President Reagan's steadfast opposition to
65 communism, his unshakeable resolved to defeat the "Evil Empire,"
66 and his secure belief in government for and by the people, led to
67 the collapse of the Berlin Wall and victory in the Cold War; and

68 WHEREAS, President Reagan's belief in freedom as a God-given
69 right of all peoples led to a democratic revolution across Central
70 America; and

71 WHEREAS, Ronald Wilson Reagan, father, husband, actor and
72 dedicated public servant, restored the pride, optimism and
73 strength of the United States and earned the deep respect and
74 affection of his fellow citizens, particularly those in
75 Mississippi:

76 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
77 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
78 the Legislature notes with deep sorrow and solemn mourning the
79 death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, and extends its heartfelt sympathy
80 to the wife and family of President Reagan.

81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature commends the
82 former President for his Presidency and his many accomplishments.

83 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Resolution be forwarded to
84 Mississippi's congressional delegation, the President of the
85 United States and to the family of the former President.