

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2**  
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES STOLTZE, Pruitt, Thomas, Costello, Chenault, Fairclough, Hawker, Johansen, Johnson, Keller, Millett, Neuman, Olson, Seaton, Peggy Wilson, Gatto, Saddler, Muñoz, Thompson**

**Introduced: 1/21/11**

**Referred: Resources**

**A RESOLUTION**

1   **Urging the Alaska Historical Commission to prepare recommendations for the naming**  
2   **of a geographical feature in the state as a permanent legacy in recognition of President**  
3   **Ronald Reagan's service to the United States of America.**

4   **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5       **WHEREAS** Ronald Wilson Reagan served the United States of America with honor  
6       and distinction as the 40th President of the United States from 1981 to 1989; and

7       **WHEREAS** President Reagan led a bipartisan effort to enact a bold agenda that  
8       brought common sense to the government and led to unprecedented economic growth and  
9       opportunity for millions of Americans; and

10      **WHEREAS** President Reagan's leadership and foreign policy initiatives led to the end  
11      of the Cold War, the rise of democracy in the Soviet Union, the collapse of the Berlin Wall,  
12      and an expansion of democracy around the world that guaranteed basic human rights for  
13      millions of people in the Middle East, Europe, the Caribbean, and Central America; and

14      **WHEREAS** President Reagan signed the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty  
15      between the United States and the Soviet Union, which reduced the number of nuclear

1 warheads primed for launch by the world's two superpowers and established the framework  
2 for the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty; and

3 **WHEREAS** President Reagan advanced equality for women by appointing Sandra  
4 Day O'Connor as the first woman Justice of the United States Supreme Court; and

5 **WHEREAS**, throughout his presidency, Ronald Reagan advocated limiting federal  
6 government control over the land and natural resources of Alaska; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in 1983, President Reagan signed into law the Alaska Railroad Transfer  
8 Act, transferring ownership of the Alaska Railroad to the state; and

9 **WHEREAS** President Reagan signed legislation authorizing reparations to be paid to  
10 Aleuts who were displaced from their homes and sent to internment camps, known as  
11 "duration villages," during World War II; and

12 **WHEREAS** President Reagan supported the Village Built Clinic Leasing Program,  
13 which funded Indian Health Service clinics in Native villages throughout the state, bringing  
14 basic health care to many Alaskans;

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Alaska Historical  
16 Commission to prepare recommendations for the naming of a geographical feature in the state  
17 as a permanent legacy in recognition of President Ronald Reagan's service to the United  
18 States of America; and be it

19 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature honors the memory of  
20 President Ronald Reagan and recognizes his accomplishments in service to Alaska, the  
21 nation, and the world.

## Why honor President Reagan's Centennial?

"President Ronald Reagan inspired freedom and changed the world. The example of his leadership continues to inspire us today. Because of his legacy, captive nations were freed, a Cold War was ended, economic freedom flourishes, and Americans were made proud again.

President Reagan always believed that America's best days were ahead. We are reminded of that spirit of optimism and the principles he championed as our president; courage in the face of oppression, the spirit of patriotism, support for a strong national defense, a belief in economic opportunity and an unwavering commitment to the cause of freedom.

Remembering that 'freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction' is a fair warning that America will only be great so long as it passes on these lessons of freedom to future generations. Through the Ronald Reagan Presidential Centennial, Americans have the opportunity to do just that.

- Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library.

## Places named for former President Ronald Reagan\*

22 States have named 81 places (schools, roads, sports fields, mountains and medical centers) in his honor.

Alaska has recognized the former president, declaring Feb. 6 Ronald Reagan Day several times, but has nothing to serve as a permanent memorial honoring the 40<sup>th</sup> President.

### Alabama

- Ronald Reagan Memorial Highway (portion of Interstate 65 from Birmingham to Decatur)
- Ronald Reagan Spirit of America Field, Decatur. (Reagan visited the field in 1984)

- The Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles. (Dedicated in 2000, opened in 2008)
- Ronald Reagan Federal Building and Courthouse in Santa Ana (renamed in 1999)
- Reagan Center, Los Angeles (associated with Childhelp USA)
- Reagan Ranch Leadership Academy, Santa Barbara (affiliated with the Young America's Foundation)

### Arizona

- The Ronald Reagan Fundamental School, Yuma, Arizona
- Ronald Reagan Road, Kingman, Arizona

### Schools

- Ronald Reagan Elementary School, Bakersfield, California
- Ronald Reagan Elementary School in Chowchilla, California
- Ronald Reagan Sports Park, Temecula, California (Formerly named "Rancho California Sports Park", renamed in 2005)
- Ronald Reagan Park, Diamond Bar, California

### California

#### Institutions

- The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Center for Public Affairs in Simi Valley
- Ronald Reagan California Republican Center, Burbank, California (Headquarters of the California State Republican Party, renamed in 1996)
- Ronald Reagan Community Center, El Cajon, California (Formerly named the "El Cajon Community Center", renamed in 2004)
- Ronald Reagan State Office Building, Los Angeles (renamed in 1990)

### Roads

- Ronald Reagan Freeway (State Route 118, previously named Simi Valley-San Fernando Valley Freeway, renamed in 1994)

#### Other

- Ronald Reagan Distinguished American Award, presented annually since 1991 by the Jonathan Club, Los Angeles.
- Reagan Room at The Jonathan Club, Los Angeles.
- The Ronald Reagan Penthouse at the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles (the suite is the entire 30th floor of the hotel, and was one of Reagan's favorites)

#### Colorado

- The Ronald Reagan Highway (Interstate 25 throughout El Paso County)

#### Florida

- Florida's Turnpike designated the Ronald Reagan Turnpike, though the existing name was not changed.
- Ronald Reagan Post Office Building, West Melbourne, Florida
- Ronald W. Reagan Doral High School, a high school in the suburbs of Miami
- Ronald Reagan Avenue, Miami, Florida renamed from its numerical name a major corridor in Miami.
- Ronald Reagan Parkway, Hillsborough County, Florida
- Ronald Reagan Boulevard, Seminole County County Road 427, which kept the existing number but had all street signs changed
- Ronald Reagan Parkway, formerly Polk County County Road 54
- A 25-mile section of Florida State Road 9A in North Jacksonville was designated Ronald Reagan Highway

#### Georgia

- Ronald Reagan Drive in Evans, Columbia County
- Ronald Reagan Parkway in Gwinnett County

#### Illinois

##### Institutions

- The Ronald W. Reagan Society at Eureka College, Eureka, Illinois, a national group of donors who support the living legacy of Ronald Reagan at his college alma mater.
- The Ronald and Nancy Reagan Research Center, Alzheimer's Association, Chicago
- Birthplace of Ronald Reagan (111 S. Main St. Tampico, now a museum)

- Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home National Historic Site (in Dixon, Illinois)
- Reagan Park, Tampico (named 1985, formerly Railroad Park)

#### Roads

- Ronald Reagan Highway (U.S. Highway 14)
- Ronald Reagan Memorial Tollway (Interstate 88)
- Ronald Reagan Trail
- Reagan Drive, Eureka, Illinois (named in 1979)
- Reagan Way, Dixon, Illinois (A portion of Hennepin Avenue where Reagan walked from his home to the swimming hole as a youth)

#### Schools

- Ronald W. Reagan Middle School in Dixon, formerly Madison School.
- Reagan Physical Education Center, Eureka College renamed in 1970 (previously named for Reagan and his brother Neil).
- Ronald Reagan Peace Garden, Eureka College (includes a piece of the Berlin Wall)
- Ronald W. Reagan Exhibit, Eureka College
- Ronald W. Reagan Leadership Program, Eureka College

#### Indiana

- Ronald Reagan Expressway, (Interstate 469), Fort Wayne, Indiana
- Ronald Reagan Corridor, Hendricks County, Indiana

#### Louisiana

- Ronald Reagan Highway (US 190)

#### Mississippi

- The Reagan Hope Home

#### Missouri

Ronald Reagan Parkway, Lake St. Louis, Missouri

#### Nebraska

Ronald W. Reagan Elementary School, Omaha, Nebraska

#### New Hampshire

- Mount Reagan - (NH legislature changed name in 2003, but it conflicts with "Mount

Clay", still recognized by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names)

#### New Jersey

- Ronald Reagan School #30 - Elizabeth, New Jersey

#### New York

- Ronald Reagan Boulevard - Warwick, New York

#### North Carolina

- Ronald W. Reagan High School, Pfafftown, Forsyth County

#### Ohio

- Ronald Reagan Cross County Highway (State Route 126 north of Cincinnati), 1997
- Reagan Parkway (East-West Thoroughfare on the north side of town) Medina, Ohio
- Reagan Park, Medina, Ohio
- Ronald Reagan Voice of Freedom Park, West Chester, Ohio

#### Pennsylvania

- Ronald Reagan Federal Building and Courthouse, in Harrisburg (named on March 9, 2004)
- Ronald Reagan Drive, in the Philadelphia suburb of Richland Township (2002)
- Ronald Reagan Drive, in the Pittsburgh suburb of McCandless Township (2006)

#### Texas

- Ronald Reagan Avenue, Hickory Creek, Texas
- Ronald Reagan High School, San Antonio, Texas
- Ronald Reagan Memorial Highway, Arlington, Texas
- Ronald Reagan Middle School, Grand Prairie, Texas

- Ronald Reagan Building, Harris County Department of Education, Houston, Texas

#### Virginia

- Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (formerly Washington National Airport)
- Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport Metro Station (formerly National Airport Metro Station) On April 19, 2001 the WMATA Board voted to not rename the station. However, subsequent Republican Party Congressional threats to withhold funding caused the renaming over the objection of local leaders and residents.
- Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Highway (State Route 234, dedicated to Reagan in 2005), Prince William County
- The Reagan Building (Richmond City)

#### Washington, DC

- Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
- Ronald Reagan Chair in Public Policy at the Heritage Foundation
- Ronald Reagan Institute of Emergency Medicine at George Washington University Hospital (the hospital to which Ronald Reagan was taken immediately after the March 30, 1981 assassination attempt on him and named after him on the tenth anniversary of the assassination attempt.)
- The Ronald Wilson Reagan Republican Center of the National Republican Senatorial Committee

#### Wisconsin

- Ronald Wilson Reagan College Preparatory High School, Milwaukee

\*Data from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library.

#### Places in Alaska named after former presidents: (Based on data from the USGS)

- **Mount McKinley** – Denali National Park - Named after President William McKinley
- **Harding Ice Field** – Located in the Kenai Mountains - Named after President Warren G. Harding
- **Washington Monument Rock** – Ketchikan, In Thorne Arm near Revillagigedo Channel – Named for resemblance to Washington Monument in Washington D.C.
- **Jefferson Peak** – Near Petersburg – Named after Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence and third President of the United States.
- **Grant Point** – located between Izembek Lagoon and Applegate Cove, 8 mi. NW of village of Cold Bay – Named after President Ulysses S. Grant.
- **Grant Peak** – In the Sitka Coast Mountains – Named after President Ulysses S. Grant.
- **Lincoln Island** – In the Lynn Canal near Juneau – Named after President Abraham Lincoln.

- **Lincoln Peak** – Near Angoon – Named after President Abraham Lincoln.
- **Cleveland Peninsula** – between Prince of Wales and Revillagigedo Is. – Names after President Grover Cleveland.
- **Mount Cleveland** – Near Skagway – Named after President Grover Cleveland.
- **Cleveland Passage** – Extends along the eastside of Whitney Island – Named after President Grover Cleveland.
- **Fillmore Peak** – Located in the Juneau Coastal Mountains – Named after President Millard Fillmore.
- **Roosevelt Harbor** – In Wrangell - probably named for President Theodore Roosevelt.
- **Roosevelt Island** – In the Yukon River, Southwest of Russian Mission – Named for President Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- **Roosevelt Lagoon** – located at the mouth of the Naha River – Named for President Theodore Roosevelt.
- **Roosevelt Creek** – Located 45 miles southeast of Nenana - Prospectors in 1905 for President Theodore Roosevelt.
- **Kennedy Entrance** - Between the Barren Islands and the Chugach Islands of the Kenai Peninsula, connecting the Gulf of Alaska with Cook Inlet – Named after President John F. Kennedy.



## U.S. Board on Geographic Names

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The U.S. Board on Geographic Names is a Federal body created in 1890 and established in its present form by Public Law in 1947 to maintain uniform geographic name usage throughout the Federal Government. The Board comprises representatives of Federal agencies concerned with geographic information, population, ecology, and management of public lands. Sharing its responsibilities with the Secretary of the Interior, the Board promulgates official geographic feature names with locative attributes as well as principles, policies, and procedures governing the use of domestic names, foreign names, Antarctic names, and undersea feature names.

The original program of names standardization addressed the complex issues of domestic geographic feature names during the surge of exploration, mining, and settlement of western territories after the American Civil War. Inconsistencies and contradictions among many names, spellings, and applications became a serious problem to surveyors, map makers, and scientists who required uniform, non-conflicting geographic nomenclature. President Benjamin Harrison signed an Executive Order establishing the Board and giving it authority to resolve unsettled geographic names questions. Decisions of the Board were accepted as binding by all departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

The Board gradually expanded its interests to include foreign names and other areas of interest to the United States, a process that accelerated during World War II. In 1947, the Board was recreated by Congress in Public Law 80-242. The usefulness of standardizing (not regulating) geographic names has been proven time and again, and today more than 50 nations have some type of national names authority. The United Nations stated that "the best method to achieve international standardization is through strong programs of national standardization." Numerous nations established policies relevant to toponomy (the study of names) in their respective countries.

In this age of geographic information systems, the Internet, and homeland defense, geographic names data are even more important and more challenging. Applying the latest technology, the Board on Geographic Names continues its mission. It serves the Federal Government and the public as a central authority to which name problems, name inquiries, name changes, and new name proposals can be directed. In partnership with Federal, State, and local agencies, the Board provides a conduit through which uniform geographic name usage is applied and current names data are promulgated.

For geographic feature names policies applying to the United States, or to the use of foreign geographic names, Antarctica names, and undersea feature



names by the United States, see the respective items in the main menu on the left. Any person or organization, public or private, may make inquiries or request the Board to render formal decisions on proposed new names, proposed name changes, or names that are in conflict. Minutes of the Board's meetings are available. Communications concerning the Board should be addressed to:

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