

By: Beck

H.R. No. 269

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Admirers across the country and around the world are  
2 celebrating the centennial of Ronald Reagan's birth on February 6,  
3 2011, and this occasion presents an ideal opportunity to honor his  
4 wife, Nancy Reagan, for her remarkable contributions as a first  
5 lady, role model, and advocate for research on Alzheimer's disease;  
6 and

7           WHEREAS, Born in New York City on July 6, 1921, the former  
8 Nancy Davis graduated from Smith College with a degree in drama and  
9 began her acting career on New York stages; Hollywood beckoned, and  
10 she appeared in 11 movies, including *East Side, West Side* and *Shadow*  
11 *on the Wall*; on March 4, 1952, she married Ronald Reagan, and they  
12 starred together in *Hellcats of the Navy*; they became the parents of  
13 two children, Patricia and Ronald, and Mrs. Reagan devoted herself  
14 to caring for her family and supporting her husband as one of his  
15 most trusted political advisors; and

16           WHEREAS, Mrs. Reagan worked with numerous charitable groups  
17 during her husband's tenure as governor of California from 1967 to  
18 1975; she spent countless hours visiting veterans, the elderly, and  
19 the disabled, and she gave even more generously of her time and  
20 talents as first lady of the United States; a tireless supporter of  
21 the Foster Grandparent Program, she also took up the issue of drug  
22 and alcohol abuse among young people and raised awareness through  
23 the "Just Say No" campaign, and she traveled extensively to speak  
24 about those causes; moreover, she supported the arts and young

1 performers through the public television series *In Performance at*  
2 *the White House*; her efforts won the hearts of her fellow Americans,  
3 and she was consistently listed among the 10 most admired women in  
4 the world in Gallup Polls in the 1980s; and

5       WHEREAS, After her husband left office, Mrs. Reagan  
6 established the Nancy Reagan Foundation to continue teaching youth  
7 about the dangers of substance abuse; former president Reagan  
8 announced in 1994 that he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's  
9 disease, and the next year, the couple joined with the Alzheimer's  
10 Association to found the Ronald and Nancy Reagan Research Institute  
11 to accelerate the progress of research on this disease; in addition  
12 to serving as a caregiver for her husband until his death, Mrs.  
13 Reagan has dedicated herself to advocacy; she has helped raise  
14 millions of dollars for research and increased the level of  
15 knowledge among the public, breaking down misconceptions; and

16       WHEREAS, Nancy Reagan has inspired innumerable people  
17 through her philanthropic endeavors, and she has set a shining  
18 example of devotion, compassion, and courage to which others may  
19 aspire; now, therefore, be it

20       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
21 Legislature hereby commend Nancy Reagan for her exceptional  
22 contributions to the citizens of this nation on the occasion of the  
23 centennial of Ronald Reagan's birth and extend to her sincere best  
24 wishes for the future.