

The Speaker, on behalf of the entire membership of the House of Representatives, offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 277.

A resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for President Ronald Reagan.

Whereas, With the passing of Ronald Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, our nation unites to salute the memory of a beloved leader and celebrate the life of a gentleman who truly embodied the best of the American spirit. With his boundless optimism and clarity of purpose, President Reagan left his mark on history as a leader of unwavering principle and unshakable belief in the noble ideals of our country; and

Whereas, Born and raised amid humble surroundings in Illinois, Ronald Reagan took an unusual career path to the White House. His innate gift for communicating with people—which was to serve him so well in the nation's highest office—helped to forge convictions on personal responsibility and initiative that shaped his philosophy of what the role of government should and should not be. Two terms as the Governor of California illustrated his determination and vision in incorporating his convictions into public policies for the greater good; and

Whereas, His nomination for the presidency at the 1980 Republican National Convention in Detroit set in motion a new way of approaching the nation's challenges. He took office at a dark hour in our history, with runaway inflation, unemployment rates at the highest levels since the Great Depression, and grave threats from overseas. Through comprehensive reforms, new attitudes, and the magnetism of his personality, Ronald Reagan left office with the country in far stronger shape; and

Whereas, Most of all, President Reagan's contagious optimism gave heart to our country and strengthened America's devotion to the highest ideals of self-government. Where others saw despair, he saw hope. Where others saw problems, he saw opportunity. The collapse of communism in the Soviet Union, the end of the Cold War, and an invigorated commitment to liberty are lasting legacies of the man who reminded us, in both his words and his deeds, of our country's greatness and its responsibilities. These gifts will long be treasured by a grateful nation, a nation he so loved as the beacon of freedom in the world, a "shining city on a hill"; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer our highest expression of tribute to honor the memory of President Ronald Reagan, the 40th President of the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Reagan family as evidence of the lasting esteem that the people of Michigan will always hold for the memory of President Reagan.