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Statement on Signing the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act

June 2, 2009

Today I am pleased today to sign into law, H.R. 131, which will create a Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission with the responsibility to plan, develop, and carry out activities to honor Ronald Reagan on the 100th anniversary of his birth. It is fitting that the life of our 40th President be commemorated on this occasion. The bill provides that the Commission will be composed of the Secretary of the Interior, four individuals whom I will appoint after considering the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Ronald Reagan Foundation, and six members of Congress appointed by the congressional leadership. I wholeheartedly welcome the participation of members of Congress in the activities of the Commission. In accord with President Reagan's Signing Statement made upon signing similar commemorative legislation in 1983, I understand, and my Administration has so advised the Congress, that the members of Congress "will be able to participate only in ceremonial or advisory functions of [*such a*] Commission, and not in matters involving the administration of the act" in light of the separation of powers and the Appointments and Ineligibility Clauses of the Constitution (Public Papers of the President, Ronald Reagan, Vol. II, 1983, page 1390).

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,
June 2, 2009.

NOTE: H.R. 131, approved June 2, was assigned Public Law No. 111–25.

Categories: Bill Signings and Vetoes : Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act, statement.

Subjects: Interior, Department of the : Secretary; Legislation, enacted : Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act; Presidency, U.S. : Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission.

DCPD Number: DCPD200900424.