

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.

Statement on a Meeting With House Democratic Leaders June 2, 2009

Speaker Pelosi, Leader Hoyer, and I had a very productive discussion this afternoon about some of the major issues before Congress. The House of Representatives has a very busy legislative schedule ahead of them,

and I am grateful for the leadership they are providing on our major priorities, including health care reform, energy reform, and restoring fiscal discipline.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting a Supplemental Budget Request June 2, 2009

Dear Madam Speaker:

On April 30, I wrote to you to request funding for the 2009 H1N1 flu outbreak. Since this request, we have learned much about the outbreak and the level of national response that possibly could be necessary in the coming months. There also remains much uncertainty about the outbreak and its potential to return during the upcoming flu season in the United States.

Out of an abundance of caution, I ask the Congress to consider an additional and contin-

gent request for \$2 billion and other authorities to enhance our Nation's capability to respond to the potential spread of this outbreak. These funds should be provided with maximum flexibility to allow us to address this emerging situation.

The proposal also includes an additional \$200 million to address the serious humanitarian crisis developing in Pakistan. To date, there are over 2.5 million displaced people in Pakistan, many of whom have fled their homes because of the Pakistani government's