

By: Guerra

H.R. No. 537

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Tejano Monument was unveiled on the grounds of
2 the State Capitol on March 29, 2012, and it has since become an
3 iconic symbol for the sweeping influence that Tejanos have had on
4 the story of Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, The idea for the monument was first proposed by
6 McAllen physician Cayetano Barrera, who visited the Capitol in 2000
7 and noted that there were no statues that recognized the
8 contributions of Hispanic Texans; Dr. Barrera's concern was met
9 with widespread agreement, and soon, Mexican American leaders took
10 the first steps to bring the Tejano Monument to fruition by forming
11 a private fundraising committee, which went on to raise
12 approximately \$2 million for the project's completion; a series of
13 legislative bills were passed to authorize, fund, design, and build
14 the Tejano Monument, and Armando Hinojosa of Laredo was contracted
15 to be the sculptor; and

16 WHEREAS, The Tejano Monument pays tribute to the legacy of
17 the state's Spanish and Mexican pioneers and settlers; it features
18 a 20-foot-long granite base and 10 bronze statues depicting a
19 Spanish explorer, a mounted vaquero, a pair of longhorn cattle, and
20 a rancho family; each statue was sculpted with careful attention
21 to historical accuracy, and the monument is accompanied by five
22 bronze-relief plaques that trace the history of Tejanos from the
23 16th through the 20th centuries; the monument debuted to great
24 ceremony on March 29, 2012, with then-Governor Rick Perry and other

1 state officials and public speakers delivering addresses to a crowd
2 that included descendants of some of the founding Tejano families;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Though the original Tejanos arrived on Texas soil
5 for a multitude of reasons, they all played a crucial role in
6 shaping the narrative of the Lone Star State, and for nearly a
7 decade, the Tejano Monument has stood as a resplendent tribute to
8 Tejanos' contributions, their history, and the common heritage they
9 share with all Texans; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the dedication of the Tejano
12 Monument on the Texas Capitol grounds and extend sincere
13 appreciation to all those who were involved in the planning,
14 funding, design, and creation of this notable landmark.