

By: Alonzo

H.R. No. 310

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, February 2, 2009, marks the 161st anniversary of the
2 signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, an act that officially
3 signaled the end of the Mexican War; and

4 WHEREAS, Concluding hostilities that had begun between
5 Mexico and the United States in 1846, the treaty constitutes a major
6 event in the history of both countries and in the annals of the Lone
7 Star State; and

8 WHEREAS, In consequence of its provisions, Mexico recognized
9 the annexation of Texas by the United States and accepted the Rio
10 Grande as the state's southern boundary; in addition, Mexico ceded
11 to the United States the territory of the present-day states of
12 California, Arizona, and New Mexico, as well as parts of Utah,
13 Nevada, and Colorado, in exchange for a payment of \$15 million; and

14 WHEREAS, The treaty further offered American citizenship to
15 Mexicans living in the ceded lands, an offer accepted by an
16 overwhelming majority of the approximately 80,000 individuals who
17 thus became eligible; and

18 WHEREAS, Those holding Mexican title to land now situated
19 within the borders of the United States were also promised respect
20 for their property; in Texas, subsequent adjudication confirmed
21 almost all of the claims that were presented for validation; and

22 WHEREAS, Yet another treaty provision stipulated that Mexico
23 and the United States would refer future disputes to arbitration;
24 an outstanding instance of such a resolution is the Chamizal

1 settlement of 1963, which concluded a 99-year-old boundary dispute
2 in the vicinity of El Paso; and

3 WHEREAS, The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo secured for Texas
4 its claim to land between the Nueces River and the Rio Grande,
5 pointed the way toward a bilingual, multiethnic society along the
6 Texas-Mexico border, and pledged two proud countries to peaceful
7 negotiation of their differences; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the signing of the Treaty of
10 Guadalupe Hidalgo on February 2, 1848, and recognize the momentous
11 significance of this date for the State of Texas.