H.R. No. 323

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Texans and many other Americans are joining with our 2 neighbors south of the Rio Grande on May 5, 2010, to celebrate Cinco 3 de Mayo, a holiday honoring the legendary Mexican victory over the 4 French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862; and

5 WHEREAS, After chafing under Spanish colonization for several centuries, Mexico declared itself a free and independent 6 nation in 1821, but the transition from colonialism was a difficult 7 one, and the mid-19th century saw the young nation struggling to 8 9 maintain a stable government; imperial powers in Europe seeking to take advantage of Mexico's troubles and recover some of the rich 10 11 territory they had lost during recent independence movements joined 12 forces to invade the country in 1861; and

WHEREAS, Although England and Spain eventually withdrew, the French army continued its invasion and by 1862 had begun the march inland toward Mexico City; led by the young general, Ignacio Seguin Zaragoza, a small, poorly armed Mexican militia countered the well-outfitted French soldiers at Puebla, a town southeast of the capital, and, despite being vastly outnumbered, prevailed and soundly defeated the French army; and

20 WHEREAS, That victory at Puebla on May 5, 1862, was an 21 important event in the history of the Republic of Mexico, for by 22 conquering one of the world's finest military forces the courageous 23 Mexican soldiers struck a blow against imperialism and foreign 24 domination and marked an extraordinary triumph for Mexican

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1 independence and pride; and

WHEREAS, Today, the anniversary of that famous battle is 2 3 observed in many U.S. cities as well as in Mexico, but Cinco de Mayo celebrations in Texas are unique because they pay tribute to our 4 5 shared heritage with Mexico; General Zaragoza, born in Presidio La Bahia near present-day Goliad, Texas, holds a distinctive place in 6 history as a true Tejano, a son of both Texas and Mexico, and his 7 8 determination to honor and defend "la patria," the homeland, is as inspiring now as it was more than a century ago; and 9

10 WHEREAS, Cinco de Mayo pays homage to one of the truly notable 11 events in Mexico's past while celebrating its music, food, art, and 12 cherished traditions, and the annual event has truly become a 13 special part of the rich cultural fabric of the Lone Star State; 14 now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas 16 Legislature hereby commemorate Cinco de Mayo, 2010, and encourage 17 its observance around the state.

Alonzo

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Straus Allen Alonzo Alvarado Anchia Anderson Aycock Berman Bohac Bolton Bonnen Branch Brown of Kaufman Brown of Brazos Burnam Button Callegari Castro Chavez Chisum Christian Cohen Coleman Cook Corte Crabb Craddick Creighton Crownover Darby Davis of Harris Davis of Dallas Deshotel Driver Dukes Dunnam Dutton Edwards Eiland Eissler Elkins England Farabee Farias Farrar Fletcher Flores Flynn Frost Gallego

Gattis Geren Giddings Gonzales Gonzalez Toureilles Guillen Gutierrez Hamilton Hancock Hardcastle Harless Harper**-**Brown Hartnett Heflin Hernandez Herrero Hilderbran Hochberg Hodge Homer Hopson Howard of Fort Bend Howard of Travis Hughes Hunter Isett Jackson Jones Keffer Kent King of Parker King of Taylor King of Zavala Kleinschmidt Kolkhorst Kuempel Laubenberg Legler Leibowitz Lewis Lucio III Madden Maldonado Mallory Caraway Marquez Martinez Martinez Fischer McCall McClendon McReynolds

Menendez Merritt Miklos Miller of Comal Miller of Erath Moody Morrison Naishtat Oliveira Olivo Orr Ortiz, Jr. Otto Parker Patrick Paxton Peña Phillips Pickett Pierson Pitts Quintanilla Raymond Riddle Rios Ybarra Ritter Rodriguez Rose Sheffield Shelton Smith of Tarrant Smith of Harris Smithee Solomons Strama Swinford Taylor Thibaut Thompson Truitt Turner of Tarrant Turner of Harris Vaught Veasey Villarreal Vo Walle Weber Woolley Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 323 was adopted by the House on February 26, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House