

By: Martinez Fischer

H.C.R. No. 124

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Mexican Independence Day, "Diez y Seis de  
2 Septiembre," is an important event in the history of Texas, and a  
3 commemoration of the occasion on the grounds of the State Capitol is  
4 a fitting way to celebrate the date; and

5 WHEREAS, On September 16, 1810, Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, a  
6 Mexican priest in the town of Dolores, ignited the first uprising in  
7 what would become the Mexican War of Independence; after securing  
8 the forced release of prisoners from the local jail on the night of  
9 September 15, Father Hidalgo addressed his parishioners on the  
10 morning of the 16th, exhorting them to join him in a movement  
11 against the colonial government; the ensuing struggle soon became a  
12 fight for full independence from Spain, a goal that was ultimately  
13 achieved in 1821; and

14 WHEREAS, "Diez y Seis" celebrations take place in a number of  
15 Texas cities, including San Antonio and Goliad, where they have  
16 been held for well over a century and a half, and reenactments of  
17 Father Hidalgo's clarion call, the "Grito de Dolores" or the "Grito  
18 de la Independencia," are important features of the festivities;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, The struggle for freedom is a noble endeavor, and  
21 the Mexican American Legislative Caucus is calling for a  
22 performance of the "Grito" on the State Capitol grounds to serve as  
23 a reminder of the heroism of those individuals who threw off  
24 colonial bonds and who made great sacrifices in order to forge an

1 independent nation, one that from 1821 to 1836 included the area  
2 that is today the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

3         RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas  
4 hereby direct the State Preservation Board to allow a variance from  
5 its rules pertaining to performances at the State Capitol in order  
6 to allow reenactments of the "Cry of Independence" at midnight on  
7 the evenings of September 15, 2013, and September 15, 2014; and, be  
8 it further

9         RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward an official  
10 copy of this resolution to the executive director and members of the  
11 State Preservation Board.