

By: Alonzo

H.R. No. 52

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Crystal City student walkout, during the winter  
2 of 1969-1970, stands as one of the most successful Chicano boycotts  
3 in the history of the Southwest; and

4           WHEREAS, Beginning in the spring of 1969, Chicano students at  
5 Crystal City High School began to present school authorities and  
6 the school board with a series of demands intended to redress a long  
7 history of discriminatory practices against Chicano students; on  
8 December 9, 1969, after the school board had repeatedly resisted  
9 dealing with the majority of the students' grievances, a number of  
10 Chicano students at the high school began a well-organized boycott  
11 of their classes; led by Severita Lara, Mario Trevino, and Diana  
12 Serna, the boycott grew daily and even spread to the junior high and  
13 elementary schools; by the time the schools closed for the  
14 Christmas holidays, between one-half and two-thirds of all the  
15 students in the city's public schools were boycotting their  
16 classes; and

17           WHEREAS, The student walkout in Crystal City served as a  
18 galvanizing force in organizing the Chicano residents of that town  
19 and the surrounding area; the influence of the boycott became  
20 manifest not only in the fairer treatment that Chicano students  
21 received in the schools of Crystal City but in the dramatic new  
22 political power that Chicano citizens came to exercise in certain  
23 communities of South Texas; now, therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas

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1 Legislature hereby commemorate the 45th anniversary of the 1969  
2 Crystal City student walkout and commend all who work to create a  
3 more just and inclusive society in the Lone Star State.