

By: Alonzo

H.R. No. 914

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Each year, residents of Dallas gather to celebrate
2 Cinco de Mayo, a holiday honoring the legendary Mexican victory
3 over the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862; and

4 WHEREAS, After chafing under Spanish rule for several
5 centuries, Mexico declared itself a free and independent nation in
6 1821, but the transition from colonialism was a difficult one, and
7 the mid-19th century saw the young nation struggling to maintain a
8 stable government; in the winter of 1861-1862, with the central
9 government in Mexico severely weakened, France, Britain, and Spain
10 jointly occupied the port of Veracruz for the avowed purpose of
11 securing the payment of debt owed by Mexico to European creditors;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, When it became evident that France actually intended
14 to conquer Mexico, Britain and Spain began withdrawing their troops
15 on April 11, 1862; some two weeks later, the French army began to
16 march on Mexico City; its advance, however, was dramatically
17 checked at the town of Puebla, where the Mexican general Ignacio
18 Zaragoza Seguin, leading a small, poorly armed, and greatly
19 outnumbered force, defeated the French on May 5, 1862; and

20 WHEREAS, That victory at Puebla was an important event in the
21 history of the Republic of Mexico, for by repelling one of the
22 world's finest military forces, the courageous Mexican soldiers not
23 only struck a blow against foreign domination but also fired a
24 powerful sense of national pride; and

1 WHEREAS, Today, the anniversary of the Battle of Puebla is
2 observed in many U.S. cities as well as in Mexico; Cinco de Mayo
3 celebrations in Texas enjoy a particular resonance because General
4 Zaragoza was a Tejano, born in Presidio La Bahia, near present-day
5 Goliad; the determination of this able officer and his men to defend
6 "la patria," the homeland, is as inspiring now as it was 156 years
7 ago; and

8 WHEREAS, Cinco de Mayo festivities pay homage to one of the
9 notable events in Mexico's past while highlighting that country's
10 music, food, art, and cherished traditions, and the annual
11 observance has become a special part of the rich cultural fabric of
12 Dallas and the entire Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
14 Legislature hereby recognize the 2018 Dallas celebration of Cinco
15 de Mayo and extend sincere best wishes to all those taking part in
16 the event.