

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 133

WHEREAS, Chicano History Week commences on February 2, 2017, the 169th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo; and

WHEREAS, A crucial document in the annals of both the United States and Mexico, the 1848 treaty ended two years of war between those nations; Mexico recognized the annexation of Texas by the United States, accepted the Rio Grande as the state's southern border, and gave up about half of its territory, including modern-day California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and parts of Colorado, Nevada, and Utah, in exchange for \$15 million; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 80,000 Mexicans lived in the ceded area at the time, and the vast majority chose to become United States citizens; although the treaty granted protection of their property and civil rights and although subsequent adjudication in Texas confirmed most of their claims, Mexican Texans in the area between the Rio Grande and the Nueces River faced mounting pressure and discrimination as the years passed and as more Anglos moved into the region; within decades, Mexican Texans owned almost no land at all; and

WHEREAS, Organized efforts to combat discrimination against Latinos in Texas date to the early 1900s; in the 1960s and 1970s, members of the Chicano movement joined the long struggle to win social justice for Mexican Americans; composed largely of younger Latinos, the movement focused attention on failed promises contained in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo; at the same time, this movement insisted on the value of Mexican culture and traditions and gave impetus to the inclusion of the Mexican American experience in discussions of United States history; and

WHEREAS, The contributions of Mexican Americans are integral to the story of this nation, and by gaining a better understanding of Chicano history, we deepen our appreciation of the rich heritage that is shared by all Americans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby recognize February 2 through 8, 2017, as Chicano History Week and encourage all Texans to learn more about the important role that Chicanos have played in the saga of the Lone Star State.

Rodríguez

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 6, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate