87R30654 JGH-D

By:  Neave H.R. No. 2099

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Across the Lone Star State, many Texans will celebrate El Día de los Muertos in the autumn of 2021; and

WHEREAS, El Día de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead, is a traditional Mexican holiday observed November 1 and 2; a blend of Mesoamerican ritual, European religion, and Spanish culture, the holiday has roots that go back 3,000 years, to the ancient cultures of the Aztecs and other peoples of pre-Columbian America; it is a time to recognize death as a natural part of the cycle of life, and festivities often include facial makeup, costumes, and revelry; and

WHEREAS, During El Día de los Muertos, it is believed that the border between the worlds of the living and the dead dissolve, and the souls of the dead can return to eat, drink, dance, and make music with their loved ones; traditionally, participants welcome the departed by building makeshift altars called *ofrendas* and adorning them with offerings of flowers, photographs, favorite foods, candles, and other objects; and

WHEREAS, Among the most prominent symbols of the holiday are *calacas* (skeletons) and *calaveras* (skulls), and in 1910, the satirical cartoonist José Guadalupe Posada created La Calavera Catrina, or the Elegant Skull, a female skeleton with makeup and fancy clothes which has become one of the most iconic images of the holiday; and

WHEREAS, Each year on El Día de los Muertos, friends and family gather in a celebration that is both solemn and joyful, and the holiday in 2021 represents a fine opportunity for all Texans to honor the dead and rejoice in another year of life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate El Día de los Muertos 2021 and extend to all who participate sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable holiday.