

1-1 By: Schofield, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Lucio) H.C.R. No. 67  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 17, 2021;  
 1-3 May 17, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on  
 1-4 Administration; May 26, 2021, reported favorably by the following  
 1-5 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 26, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The many and diverse contributions made by  
 1-17 Tejanos--Texans of Spanish, Mexican, African, and indigenous  
 1-18 descent--have been fundamental to the history and heritage of Texas  
 1-19 for more than three centuries; and

1-20 WHEREAS, Tejano men and women were the founders of the  
 1-21 state's oldest permanent settlements, including the cities of San  
 1-22 Antonio, Nacogdoches, Victoria, Goliad, and El Paso, and they were  
 1-23 the first to name many of our state's waterways and natural  
 1-24 features; and

1-25 WHEREAS, Legendary Tejanos of the Navarro, Ruiz, Menchaca,  
 1-26 Arocha, and Seguin families played an integral part in the effort to  
 1-27 settle Texas and negotiated peace with the Comanches and other  
 1-28 indigenous peoples; on April 6, 1813, Tejanos were the first  
 1-29 residents to declare for an independent Texas, and at the Battle of  
 1-30 Medina that same year, they gave their lives in a bloody engagement  
 1-31 with a Spanish royalist army that remains the deadliest clash in the  
 1-32 history of Texas; moreover, in an act that was an important prelude  
 1-33 to the Texas Revolution, Tejanos were the first to rise in defense  
 1-34 of the Mexican Constitution of 1824, and such prominent figures as  
 1-35 José Antonio Navarro and José Francisco Ruiz were signers of the  
 1-36 Texas Declaration of Independence in 1836; and

1-37 WHEREAS, Many Tejanos risked their lives and livelihood  
 1-38 during the Texas Revolution, and its heroes include Gregorio  
 1-39 Esparza and José Toribio Losoya, both of whom died at the Alamo, as  
 1-40 well as members of their families, who were some of the few  
 1-41 survivors of the battle; among the others who stepped forward in the  
 1-42 fight for independence were the troops led by Plácido Benavides,  
 1-43 who fought bravely across South Texas, and the men of Juan Seguín's  
 1-44 company, who helped secure the decisive victory at the Battle of San  
 1-45 Jacinto; later, Adina Emilia De Zavala led the effort to preserve  
 1-46 historic structures at the Alamo so that the legacy of that battle  
 1-47 and the entire revolution could be better appreciated by future  
 1-48 generations; and

1-49 WHEREAS, Devoted to the concepts of liberty and equality,  
 1-50 numerous Tejanos were early and powerful advocates for free speech,  
 1-51 freedom of the press, and public education in Texas; in the 20th  
 1-52 century, that tradition was continued by such individuals as the  
 1-53 journalist Jovita Idár, who called for women's suffrage and  
 1-54 campaigned against lynching, the restaurateur and civic leader  
 1-55 Felix Tijerina, who pushed for bilingual education, and attorney  
 1-56 John J. Herrera, who won important legal cases related to school  
 1-57 segregation, workplace discrimination, and other civil rights  
 1-58 issues; and

1-59 WHEREAS, Countless Tejanos have served with great  
 1-60 distinction in our nation's military; the Medal of Honor, America's  
 1-61 highest military commendation for valor, was awarded to seven

2-1 Tejanos during World War II, two during the Korean War, and three  
2-2 during the Vietnam War; physician, activist, and World War II  
2-3 veteran Hector P. Garcia founded the American GI Forum of Texas to  
2-4 champion the rights of former Hispanic service members; and

2-5 WHEREAS, The culture of the Lone Star State is inextricably  
2-6 linked with the contributions of Tejanos; they were the first to  
2-7 introduce rodeos, expert horsemanship, and the raising of longhorn  
2-8 cattle, which became central to the state's western identity; in  
2-9 regard to food, Tejanos combined the flavors and ingredients of  
2-10 Mexico and the United States to create Tex-Mex, the state's most  
2-11 iconic cuisine; Texas music is unimaginable without the  
2-12 contributions of such great Tejano artists as Lydia Mendoza, Flaco  
2-13 Jiménez, Rosita Fernández, and Selena, and the musical styles they  
2-14 helped popularize range from romantic ballads to corridos that tell  
2-15 stories of adventure and resistance; and

2-16 WHEREAS, Throughout the state's history, Tejano men and women  
2-17 have been champions of social and political progress while exerting  
2-18 a tremendous influence on our way of life; deeply devoted to Texas,  
2-19 they have overcome injustice and discrimination to play an  
2-20 instrumental role in the epic saga of the Lone Star State, and it is  
2-21 indeed fitting that their contributions be officially honored; now,  
2-22 therefore, be it

2-23 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas  
2-24 hereby designate April 6 as Tejano Day, an observance that  
2-25 coincides with the date in 1813 when Tejano leaders issued the first  
2-26 declaration of Texas independence; and, be it further

2-27 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section  
2-28 [391.004\(d\)](#), Government Code, this designation remain in effect  
2-29 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally  
2-30 passed by the legislature.

2-31

\* \* \* \* \*