

1-1 By: Parker (Senate Sponsor - Johnson) H.C.R. No. 83
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2021;
 1-3 May 12, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Administration; May 20, 2021, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 20, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Schwertner	X			
1-8 Johnson	X			
1-9 Alvarado	X			
1-10 Buckingham			X	
1-11 Huffman	X			
1-12 Menéndez	X			
1-13 Springer			X	

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State has benefited enormously from
 1-17 the contributions of its Italian American residents; and

1-18 WHEREAS, During the 17th, 18th, and early 19th centuries, the
 1-19 few Italians who came to Texas were mainly explorers, adventurers,
 1-20 or missionaries; Italians began to play a larger role toward the end
 1-21 of the 19th century, when Piedmontese made their homes in Montague
 1-22 County and Sicilians settled in the lower Brazos valley and on the
 1-23 Galveston County mainland; Modenese, Venetians, and Piedmontese
 1-24 worked the coal mines at Thurber, and Italian financier Joseph
 1-25 Telfener brought some 1,200 Lombards to help construct the New
 1-26 York, Texas and Mexican Railway between Victoria and Rosenberg; and

1-27 WHEREAS, Most of the railway builders and coal miners moved
 1-28 back to Italy or on to other places when their work was completed;
 1-29 however, the Italian American community in the Brazos valley fanned
 1-30 out into surrounding areas, and settlements in Houston, Galveston,
 1-31 and San Antonio expanded rapidly; new residents founded churches,
 1-32 newspapers, and benevolent-fraternal organizations, as well as
 1-33 businesses; prominent Italian Americans of the 20th century include
 1-34 bootmaker Sam Lucchese, sculptor Pompeo Coppini, rancher Antonio
 1-35 Mateo Bruni, and agriculturalist-developer Biagio Varisco; the
 1-36 towns of Bruni and Varisco and such names as Bruni Park, Varisco
 1-37 Airport, Liggio Street, and Laneri Avenue are a testament to the
 1-38 achievements of Italian Americans; and

1-39 WHEREAS, Through the years, individuals of Italian descent
 1-40 have excelled in all sectors of our society and economy, enriching
 1-41 our cultural tapestry, enhancing our prosperity, and securing the
 1-42 Lone Star State's reputation as a land of promise and possibility;
 1-43 most recently, Italian Americans have made prominent contributions
 1-44 throughout the state in such areas as aerospace, energy,
 1-45 technology, science, research, and arts and culture, in addition to
 1-46 construction and economic development projects; June 2 represents
 1-47 an ideal date on which to honor all of those accomplishments, as
 1-48 Italians around the world celebrate this day as Festa della
 1-49 Repubblica to commemorate the 1946 referendum that ended the
 1-50 monarchy in Italy and established a republic and to commemorate
 1-51 over 160 years since the unification of Italy; now, therefore, be it

1-52 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-53 hereby designate June 2 as Italian Heritage Day; and, be it further

1-54 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section
 1-55 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
 1-56 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally
 1-57 passed by the legislature.

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