

By: Turner

H.R. No. 63

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The University of Texas at Arlington Center for
2 Mexican American Studies is celebrating its 30th anniversary in
3 2023; and

4 WHEREAS, An interdisciplinary ethnic studies program within
5 the College of Liberal Arts, CMAS was authorized by the 73rd Texas
6 Legislature in 1993; State Representative Roberto Alonzo, the first
7 Mexican American elected to the legislature from North Texas,
8 played a key role in the drive to create the center, which formally
9 opened on October 12, 1994, under founding director José Ángel
10 Gutiérrez; and

11 WHEREAS, The center promotes research and the recruitment,
12 retention, and professional development of UTA faculty actively
13 engaged in studies on Latino issues; students can pursue an 18-hour
14 academic minor in Mexican American and Latina/o Studies, with
15 classes on literature, history, and politics; CMAS offers
16 scholarships for students as well as funding for faculty members
17 studying related subjects; and

18 WHEREAS, Engaging the wider UTA community, the center
19 sponsors events in both Spanish and English, such as career
20 workshops and speaker series; among undergraduate students at UTA,
21 36 percent identify as Latino, and CMAS helps to ensure that their
22 experiences are reflected and their needs for representation are
23 met; and

24 WHEREAS, The university's mariachi group, Mariachi Los

1 Jinetes, found support through the center when it was established,
2 and CMAS hires the group to perform for occasions throughout the
3 year; serving as a bridge between UTA and the Latino community in
4 the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, the center hosts a variety of
5 service outreach activities; and

6 WHEREAS, Since its inception, CMAS has advanced knowledge,
7 understanding, and appreciation of Latino heritage and
8 contributions, equipping Texans to participate more fully in our
9 diverse society and advance more successfully in an increasingly
10 global economy; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
12 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby congratulate The
13 University of Texas at Arlington Center for Mexican American
14 Studies on its 30th anniversary and extend to all those associated
15 with the center sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for the center as an expression of high regard by the Texas
19 House of Representatives.