

By: Neave Criado

H.R. No. 294

# RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Latinx judges from across the state are gathering in Austin on February 22, 2023, in celebration of Texas Latinx Judges Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, "Latinx" is the term specifically chosen to reference judges of all Latin American and/or Hispanic cultural, racial, and ethnic groups, including jurists who are nonbinary; and

WHEREAS, Although the Latinx population of Texas is at least 40 percent, Latinx judges account for only 16 percent of the state's judiciary; nevertheless, Latinx judges have contributed significantly to the delivery of justice across the state; notable trailblazers include Reynaldo Garza and Pete Benavides, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Raul Gonzalez and Eva Guzman, Texas Supreme Court, Elsa Alcala, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Linda Yanez, Thirteenth Court of Appeals, Carlos Cadena and Alma Lopez, Fourth Court of Appeals, and Elma Salinas Ender, 341st Judicial District Court, among others; and

WHEREAS, With support from the Hispanic Issues Section of the State Bar of Texas, Latinx judges formed the first nonpartisan Texas-wide organization dedicated to advancing current and future Latinx judges, recognizing their contributions, and promoting diversity, inclusion, integrity, and excellence in the judiciary; and

WHEREAS, Fostering equal justice is the mission of all judges, and the more than 500 Latinx individuals presently serving

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1 on courts across Texas have exemplified the highest standards of  
2 judicial conduct and have demonstrated an inspiring commitment to  
3 the public through their efforts both on and off the bench; now,  
4 therefore, be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
6 Legislature hereby recognize February 22, 2023, as Texas Latinx  
7 Judges Day at the State Capitol and extend to all those  
8 participating sincere best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable  
9 visit to Austin.