

By: Zaffirini

S.R. No. 393

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The observance of Tejano Day at the State Capitol on
2 April 6, 2023, provides a fitting opportunity to recognize the
3 wide-ranging contributions Tejanos have made to the history and
4 heritage of Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, Tejanos are descendants of the first Spanish,
6 Mexican, and indigenous families on the Texas frontier; they were
7 the founders of the Lone Star State's oldest permanent settlements,
8 including the cities of San Antonio, Nacogdoches, Victoria, Goliad,
9 and El Paso, and they were the first to name many of the state's
10 waterways and natural features; they also played a vital role in
11 negotiating peace with the Comanches and other indigenous peoples;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Having already lived in the region for generations,
14 Tejanos were the first residents to declare for an independent
15 Texas; they risked their lives and livelihood before and during the
16 Texas Revolution, making great sacrifices in the Battle of Medina,
17 the deadliest conflict in Texas history, and helping to secure the
18 decisive victory at the Battle of San Jacinto; more recently,
19 Tejanos have continued this tradition of distinguished military
20 service, fighting for their country in World War I, World War II,
21 the Korean War, and the Vietnam War; and

22 WHEREAS, Since long before the existence of the State of
23 Texas, Tejano men and women have helped shape the region's culture;
24 they were the first to introduce such iconic elements of Texas

1 heritage as rodeos, expert horsemanship, and longhorn ranching, and
2 they developed Tex-Mex cuisine, a fusion of flavors from both sides
3 of the U.S.-Mexico border that has become inextricably linked with
4 the state; moreover, they combined Mexican vocal styles with
5 rhythms influenced by Texas' Czech and German populations to create
6 Tejano music; this unique genre was popularized by a number of
7 talented artists and groups, including Selena, Flaco Jiménez, and
8 Ramón Ayala; and

9 WHEREAS, For more than three centuries, Tejanos have been
10 essential to the vibrancy and prosperity of the Lone Star State, and
11 they may indeed take great pride in their instrumental role in the
12 story of Texas; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
14 hereby recognize April 6, 2023, as Tejano Day at the State Capitol.