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R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texans and many other Americans are joining with the
2 people of Mexico on May 5, 2025, to celebrate Cinco de Mayo, a
3 holiday honoring the legendary Mexican victory over the French at
4 the Battle of Puebla in 1862; and

5 WHEREAS, After chafing under Spanish rule for several
6 centuries, Mexico declared itself a free and independent nation in
7 1821, but the transition from colonialism was a difficult one, and
8 the mid-19th century saw the young nation struggling to maintain a
9 stable government; in the winter of 1861-1862, with the central
10 government in Mexico severely weakened, France, Britain, and Spain
11 jointly occupied the port of Veracruz for the avowed purpose of
12 securing the payment of debt owed by Mexico to European creditors;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, When it became evident that France actually intended
15 to conquer Mexico, Britain and Spain began withdrawing their troops
16 on April 11, 1862; some two weeks later, the French army began to
17 march on Mexico City; its advance, however, was dramatically
18 checked at the town of Puebla, where the Mexican general Ignacio
19 Zaragoza Seguín, leading a small, poorly armed, and greatly
20 outnumbered force, defeated the French on May 5, 1862; the battle
21 lasted from daybreak to early evening, and the French lost nearly
22 500 soldiers while fewer than 100 Mexican troops were killed; and

23 WHEREAS, That victory at Puebla was an important event in the
24 history of the Republic of Mexico; by repelling one of the world's

1 finest military forces, the courageous Mexican soldiers not only
2 struck a blow against foreign domination but also fired a powerful
3 sense of national pride; and

4 WHEREAS, Today, the anniversary of the Battle of Puebla is
5 observed in many U.S. cities as well as in Mexico with parades,
6 speeches, and historical reenactments; Cinco de Mayo celebrations
7 in Texas enjoy a particular resonance because General Zaragoza was
8 a Tejano, born in Presidio La Bahía, near present-day Goliad; the
9 determination of this able officer and his men to defend "la
10 patria," the homeland, is as inspiring now as it was more than 150
11 years ago; and

12 WHEREAS, Cinco de Mayo festivities pay homage to one of the
13 notable events in Mexico's past while highlighting that country's
14 music, food, art, and cherished traditions, and the annual
15 celebration has become a special part of the rich cultural fabric of
16 the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature
18 hereby commemorate Cinco de Mayo 2025.