Hispanic Heritage Month Resolution

"A resolution recognizing the importance of Hispanic Heritage Month at Texas A&M University."

Action Taken: PASSED

Certified By: Zachary Moore
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: September 2nd, 2020

Introduced By: Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion Chair, Off Campus Caucus
Collin Tran, Health Science Center Caucus
David Garcia, Off Campus Caucus
Victor Ferro, Engineering Caucus
Rachel Hutto, Off Campus Caucus
Dang Dang, Off - Campus Caucus

Sponsored By: Alexia Hernandez, Liberal Arts Caucus
Sofia Chunga Pizarro, Off-Campus Caucus
Megha Viswanath, Off-Campus Caucus
Brendan Ramirez, College of Education Caucus

Whereas(1): In 1968, a proclamation was issued by President Lyndon B. Johnson stating that the week of September 15th and 16th would be National Hispanic Heritage Week which would celebrate Hispanic Americans and the anniversaries of independence for the Latin American Countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Mexico; and,

Whereas(2): In 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded this week to a 30-day period starting on September 15th and ending on October 15th, which is now officially known as Hispanic Heritage Month; and,
Whereas(3): The month of September now commemorates and observes all histories, cultures and contributions of American Citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America; and, 

Whereas(4): With the Hispanic population of students at Texas A&M University at 21.94% (15,238 students) as of Fall 2019,1 Texas A&M University is well on its way of becoming an HSI, Hispanic Serving Institution; and, 

Whereas(5): Within the Texas A&M University System, four schools have already obtained the status as Hispanic-serving institutions including Texas A&M University San Antonio, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and Texas A&M International University;2 and, 

Whereas(6): The earliest known Hispanic graduate of Texas A&M University was José Angel Ortíz, Class of 1891, who graduated with a degree in civil engineering; and, 

Whereas(7): The first touchdown scored by an Aggie football team was scored on November 22, 1894 by N. Valdez ’1897 from Hidalgo, Mexico in a 14-0 victory over Galveston;3 and, 

Whereas(8): In 1969, Héctor Gutiérrez, Jr., native of Laredo, was Texas A&M’s first Hispanic Corps Commander;4 and, 

Whereas(9): In 1969, Mary Catherine (Cantu) Custer was the earliest known Hispanic woman to graduate from Texas A&M University, with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry; and, 

Whereas(10): In 1994, Guadalupe L. Rangel became the first Hispanic woman appointed to the Board of Regents; and, 

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1 https://accountability.tamu.edu/AF-Metrics/Mixed-Metrics/Student-Demographics
3 https://www.haum.net/assets/CompanyDirectory.aspx?STYLE=2&COMPANY_TYPE=1%2C5&Texas
Whereas(10): In 2003, the Texas A&M University Hispanic Network (TAMHN) was created to support and advocate for the Hispanic community within the Association of Former Students; and,

Whereas(11): In 2008, Elsa E. Murano becomes the first Hispanic and first woman to serve as the President of Texas A&M University; and,

Whereas(12): In 2010, General Joe E. Ramirez Jr., class of 1979, became the commandant of the Corps of Cadets, becoming the first Hispanic male to hold the position; and,

Whereas(13): In May 2019, the first Latinx Graduation Ceremony was held and in June of 2019, and the Latinx Graduation Coalition was created; and,

Whereas(14): During the Spring election of 2020, Guillermo "Memo" Salinas was elected as the first Hispanic Junior Yell Leader.  

Whereas(15): In the Spring election of 2020, Eric Mendoza was elected as the first Hispanic Student Body President of Texas A&M University.

Therefore
Let it be
Resolved(1): The 73rd Session of the Texas A&M University Student Senate officially recognizes September 15th-October 15th as Hispanic Heritage Month; and,

Let it be
Further
Resolved(2): For the Texas A&M University Student Senate to extend a warm gratitude to the

Spanish former students 7and their families -- Pablo Marvin '66, Monica Cuellar Menzel '93, Dr. Manuel Piña '67, Dr. Rebecca Robles-Piña '75 -- for their continuous support to the university; and,

5 https://www.tamulatinxgrad.com/about
6 https://today.tamu.edu/2020/04/16/first-hispanic-yell-leader-proud-to-represent-his-community/
7 TAMHN@aggienetwork.com
Let it be

Further Resolved(3): The 73rd Session of the Student Senate extends support to all the Hispanic & Latinx student organizations that are cultivating culture, heritage, and contextual intelligence in thousands of Aggies developing the visionary global leaders of tomorrow and actively leading by example with inclusiveness and integration.

Let it be

Further Resolved(4): A copy of this resolution be sent to:

The Battalion
Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Robin Means-Coleman, Vice President & Associate Provost for Diversity
Dr. Tonya Driver, Director of Department of Multicultural Services
Hispanic Presidents Council
Aggie Lestino
Aggieland Mariachi
ALPFA
ALPHA
Ballet Folklórico Celestial
B.E.S.O.
Brazilian Student Association
Colombian Student Association
Council for Minority Student Affairs
Delta Xi Nu
Gamma Alpha Omega
Gamma Phi Omega
Hispanic Studies Association
Lambda Theta Alpha
Lambda Theta Phi
Latino Logradores
Latino Males United
Latinx Community and Advocacy Association
Latinx Graduate Student Association
LMSA
Mexican Student Association
MSC CAMAC
MSC SCOLA
National Hispanic Institute
Omega Delta Phi
Phi Iota Alpha
PRSA
SACNAS
Salsa Fusion Latin Dance Company
Sigma Lambda Beta
Sigma Lambda Gamma
Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists
Society of National Hispanic Engineers
TAMU Latinx Graduation
Texas A&M Hispanic Network
Texas Rising
Venezuelan Student Association
Further Sponsored By: Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus
Mariana Montes, Liberal Arts Caucus
Nate Ames, Corps of Cadets Caucus
Joseph Rodgers, Off Campus Caucus
Emma Mosley, Off Campus Caucus
Aariana Myles, Off Campus Caucus
Cole Allen, Mays Caucus
Kieran Tillis, Engineering Caucus
Ximena Reynoso, Liberal Arts Caucus
Dylan Sione, Off Campus Caucus
Joshua Feldman, Legislative Relations Chair, Off Campus Caucus
Paige Wirth, College of Geosciences Caucus
Kat Nino, Off Campus Caucus
Fawaz Syed, Student Services Chair, Engineering Caucus
Jordan Vick, Liberal Arts Caucus
Bryan Marin, Vet Med and Biomedical Sciences Caucus