

A RESOLUTION

1 Observing September 15 through October 15, 2015, as "Hispanic
2 Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth draws its strength from the
4 extraordinary diversity of its people and their cultural
5 customs; and

6 WHEREAS, Hispanics were the earliest European settlers to
7 arrive at our great nation, founding settlements in Florida in
8 the 1500s; and

9 WHEREAS, Mexicans established homesteads in the Southwest in
10 the 1600s; and

11 WHEREAS, Spanish was the first European language spoken in
12 the New World; and

13 WHEREAS, Hispanic culture includes elements originating in
14 Spain, North America, Central America, South America and the
15 Caribbean; and

16 WHEREAS, Hispanics are the largest minority ethnic group in
17 the United States today; and

1 WHEREAS, More than 838,000 Hispanics reside in this
2 Commonwealth; and

3 WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans make valuable contributions to
4 this Commonwealth through business and industry, politics,
5 education, the sciences and the arts; and

6 WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans share deep family values,
7 recognize their obligations to persons who are less fortunate
8 and cherish freedom and what it means to be an American; and

9 WHEREAS, Hispanic-owned businesses are currently growing at
10 three times the rate of the national average; and

11 WHEREAS, Throughout our history, Hispanic Americans have
12 shown their devotion to our nation through military service; and

13 WHEREAS, Americans of Hispanic descent have fought in every
14 war since our founding and have taken their rightful place as
15 heroes in our nation's history; and

16 WHEREAS, Today, they are serving in our armed forces with
17 courage and honor, making our nation more secure and bringing
18 freedom to people around the world; and

19 WHEREAS, "Hispanic Heritage Month" originated in 1968 when
20 President Lyndon Johnson first proclaimed "National Hispanic
21 Heritage Week"; and

22 WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan established the month-long
23 nationwide observance on September 15, 1988; and

24 WHEREAS, September 15 marks the anniversary of independence
25 for five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador,
26 Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua; and

27 WHEREAS, September 16 and 18 are the celebrated independence
28 days for Mexico and Chile, respectively; and

29 WHEREAS, Columbus Day, or Dia de la Raza, also takes place
30 within the 30-day period on October 12; and

1 WHEREAS, To honor the achievements of Hispanic Americans, the
2 Congress of the United States, by Public Law 100-402, has
3 authorized and requested the President of the United States to
4 annually issue a proclamation designating September 15 through
5 October 15, 2015, as "National Hispanic Heritage Month"; and

6 WHEREAS, The month of September 15 through October 15, 2015,
7 is observed as "Hispanic Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania to
8 encourage all residents to celebrate the value of our diversity
9 and the rich culture which has made our Commonwealth and our
10 nation so extraordinary; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives observe September
12 15 through October 15, 2015, as "Hispanic Heritage Month" in
13 Pennsylvania.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED _____, 20 _____

BY _____, **District NO.** _____

BY _____, **District NO.** _____

BY _____, **District NO.** _____

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See next page for additional co-sponsors.

Referred to Committee on	
Date _____	20 _____
Reported _____	20 _____
As Committed-Amended	
Recommendation	

By Hon. _____	