

Rep. Guerra offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 147.

A resolution to declare September 15-October 15, 2017, as Hispanic Heritage Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, There has been a long and important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans in North America and the United States of America; and

Whereas, The month of September 15 to October 15 represents the anniversary of independence for Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Nicaragua; and

Whereas, Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15 by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America; and

Whereas, Each year, the United States recognizes the economic, cultural, and social contributions that Spanish-speaking peoples have brought to our nation, including the gifts of law, religion, agriculture, art, music, education, technology, architecture, cuisine, theater, and exploration; and

Whereas, Time and again throughout our nation's history, Hispanic-Americans have faithfully defended the principles of freedom and a representative government; and

Whereas, Hispanic Heritage Week was approved by President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period from September 15 to October 15, and enacted into law on August 17, 1988, as Public Law 100-402; and

Whereas, This state is fortunate to count among its population a large concentration of citizens of Spanish and Latin American descent, including those who have lived in this state for generations and those who are new to this state, who contribute to our economy and society through their commitment to professions, commerce, family, and the arts; and

Whereas, During the month from September 15 to October 15, this state's Hispanic-American community celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month through a series of special programs featuring Hispanic history, food, dance, and art; and

Whereas, National Hispanic Heritage Month is the period of time in the United States when people recognize the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States and celebrate these people's varied heritage, background, and culture; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare September 15-October 15, 2017, as Hispanic Heritage Month in the state of Michigan. We recognize and celebrate the contributions, service, and cultures of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.