

R E S O L U T I O N

A Resolution Commemorating February 2nd as Mexican American Heritage Day

WHEREAS, on February 2, 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed, marking a pivotal moment in the history of the United States and Mexico, reshaping the geographical, political and cultural landscapes of North America; and

WHEREAS, while the Treaty ceded lands that make up most of today's Southwest, it also granted US citizenship to the Mexican citizens living in that territory, thus creating a new ethnic identity, the Mexican Americans; and

WHEREAS, Mexican Americans comprise the largest indigenous ethnic group in the United States, representing nearly 40 million people, we also acknowledge our historical roots with the people of Mexico and that we are separated only by an artificial border; and

WHEREAS, February 2, 1848, symbolizes the birth of a new identity for Mexican Americans, our legacy lies in our determination to preserve our culture, our language, our traditional values and our honor as a people who have survived and thrived even in the face of marginalization and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, this day honors the vital roles Mexican Americans have carried out in building and strengthening the fabric of this nation, shaping the U.S. economy and society, enriching the arts, serving in its defense in time of war, and advocating for civil rights and labor reforms; and

WHEREAS, this day deserves recognition with events and activities that are appropriate to the nature of the cultural values we seek to preserve and to the respect for our history that we must pass on to our youth and children; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council commemorate the efforts of the Mexican Heritage Day Association and support their call for February 2nd to be Mexican American Heritage Day to continue fostering greater understanding and unity in a diverse America and thereby enhance recognition of the history and cultures that the American people hold in common.



Byron Sigcho-Lopez
Alderman, 25th Ward