

Date of Hearing: July 2, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES
Blanca Pacheco, Chair
HR 125 (Valencia) – As Introduced June 24, 2026

SUBJECT: Chicano Heritage Month.

SUMMARY: Recognizes August 2026 as Chicano Heritage Month; and, encourages Californians to join in acknowledging and celebrating diversity in California. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) “Chicano” or “Chicana” are sometimes used interchangeably with “Mexican American,” although the terms have different meanings for different people. Nonetheless, “Chicano” and “Chicana” were reclaimed by ethnic Mexicans in the 1960s and 1970s to express political empowerment, ethnic solidarity, and pride in being of Indigenous descent.
- 2) The Chicano Movement was a social and political movement in the United States inspired by prior acts of resistance among people of Mexican descent that worked to embrace a Chicano/Chicana identity and world view that combated structural racism, encouraged cultural revitalization, and achieved community empowerment by rejecting assimilation. Examples of this movement are shown through the advocacy work of individuals such as Vickie Castro, Ruben Salazar, Corky Gonzales, Sylvia Mendez, Dolores Huerta, and countless others.
- 3) The Chicano Movement was influenced by the Black Power movement, and both movements held similar objectives of community empowerment and liberation while also calling for Black-Brown unity.
- 4) California is home to 12.7 million people of Mexican origin, about 32 percent of the state’s population, and roughly a third of all Mexican Americans in the country. Chicanos/Chicanas have been a long-standing part of the culture of the United States, with an undeniable influence in education, public safety, infrastructure, economic development, culinary arts, and governance.
- 5) In 2021, the City of Santa Ana, California, became the first major city in the United States to declare August as “Chicano Heritage Month.”
- 6) Chicano Heritage Month is celebrated in August to recognize the significant contributions of Mexican Americans to the history of the United States.

FISCAL EFFECT: This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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