

Date of Hearing: August 21, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES

Blanca Pacheco, Chair

HR 56 (Valencia) – As Introduced August 18, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Chicano Heritage Month.

**SUMMARY:** Recognizes August 2025 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 Heritage Month is celebrated in August to recognize the significant contributions of Mexican Americans to the history of the United States.
- 2) In 2021, the City of Santa Ana, California, became the first major city in the United States to declare August as “Chicano Heritage Month.” “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.
- 3) 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.
- 4) 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.
- 5) According to the 2019 American Community Survey, people from Mexico comprised 11.3 percent of the foreign-born population in the United States. 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.
- 6) This year, Latinos are projected to make up 42 percent of California’s population and Chicanos and Chicanas form a significant part of that group.
- 7) Latino lawmakers hold 44 seats in the California State Legislature: 30 in the Assembly and 14 in the Senate. Chicanos/Chicanas represent a significant and rapidly growing demographic, and we honor their invaluable accomplishments and contributions.

**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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