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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Cinco de Mayo is a date of great importance for the Mexican and Chicano communities in the United States; and

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WHEREAS, In 1862, the French army, led by Napoleon III, began its advance into Mexico to claim territory leading to a ferocious battle known as the "Batalla de Puebla"; the French army met resistance from 5,000 ill-equipped Mestizo and Zapotec Indians under the command of General Ignacio Zaragoza; the battle, which occurred on May 5, marks the victory of the Mexican Army over the French, who were forced to retreat; and

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WHEREAS, Although the Mexican army was eventually defeated, the "Batalla de Puebla" now represents a symbol of Mexican unity and patriotism; and

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WHEREAS, As a result of this victory, Mexico demonstrated to the world that Mexico and Latin America are willing to defend themselves of any foreign intervention, especially those from imperialist states; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize "Cinco de Mayo", and join with those who celebrate May 5 as a day of remembrance for all the patriots of Mexico and Latin America who fought for independence from France in 1862.

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