

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2008, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, which included the creation of the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino (National Museum), was signed into law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission members are tasked with studying the feasibility of, and plan for, a new National Museum in the nation's capital; and

WHEREAS, the National Museum would provide a home for the historical artifacts, images and personal stories documenting over 500 years of American Latino contributions to the United States; and

WHEREAS, the National Museum would serve as an educational tool for thousands of anticipated visitors and serve to instill a sense of pride in the Latino community today and in the future; and

WHEREAS, nearly one in five U.S. Latinos lives in Texas—more than 8.5 million people; and

WHEREAS, eight of the nation's top 25 counties for Latino population are in Texas, each having more than 300,000 Latino residents; and

WHEREAS, Austin is the capital of Texas and lies just west of the historic El Camino Real de los Tejas Trail, the "Crossroads of Cultures;" and

WHEREAS, Austin and the Hill Country draws visitors from around the globe to its natural, cultural and lifestyle landmarks like the State Capitol, Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, Blanton Museum of Art, Texas Memorial Museum, Barton Springs, Highland Lakes, South By Southwest (SXSW), Austin City Limits (ACL) Festival and many others; and

WHEREAS, Austin is a globally recognized center of scholarship, innovation and creativity with the University of Texas and its renowned and largest Latin American Studies program and library collection, the new Mexican American Cultural Center, Mexic-Arte Museum, among others; and

WHEREAS, Austin is committed to the arts, inclusion and diversity;
and

WHEREAS, Austin has a wonderfully blended Latino culture and demographic—a complete Latino mosaic and the National Mall is physically full; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council of the City of Austin hereby supports the effort to locate the National Museum of the American Latino in Austin, Texas.

ADOPTED: _____, 2010

ATTEST: _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk