



SR0248

LRB104 13211 ECR 25376 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, A Quinceañera is a cherished milestone in Latin
3 American culture, eagerly anticipated by young women and their
4 families as they celebrate the young woman's fifteenth
5 birthday; and

6 WHEREAS, Quinceañera derives from the Spanish word
7 "quince", meaning 15, and focuses on the importance of
8 religion, family, music, food, and dance to celebrate an
9 important milestone in a young woman's life; and

10 WHEREAS, A Quinceañera celebration blends Spanish culture
11 with indigenous traditions, incorporating influences from both
12 the Aztec and Mayan civilizations; and

13 WHEREAS, Indigenous tribes traditionally taught young
14 women who turned 15 the skills needed for taking on their roles
15 in society, considering them ready for adulthood at that age;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, When the Spaniards colonized Mexico, they adapted
18 many of these local customs into their own culture and
19 beliefs, introducing the tradition of Catholic mass to the
20 Quinceañera; and

1 WHEREAS, With historic indigenous roots in modern-day
2 Mexico, a Quinceañera is primarily celebrated among many Latin
3 American countries and is considered a popular tradition among
4 Latine communities in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, The focal point of a Quinceañera celebration is
6 the young woman wearing a lavish ball gown adorned with layers
7 of tulle, intricate beading, and elegant lace, which can take
8 upwards of three to seven months to make; and

9 WHEREAS, A Quinceañera celebration traditionally begins
10 with a religious ceremony that has family members and
11 godparents in attendance, and it is followed by a reception
12 with family and friends; and

13 WHEREAS, The reception celebration features various
14 symbolic traditions, including the gifting of the last doll,
15 symbolizing the end of childhood, the changing of the shoes,
16 where the father or a close family member replaces the young
17 woman's flats with heels, a coronation, where the young woman
18 is given a crown, a father-daughter waltz, and a waltz of honor
19 from the chambelan de honor, known as the escort of honor, and
20 her court of damas and chambelanes, or the court of honor,
21 consisting of girls and boys chosen to be a part of the
22 Quinceañera; and

1 WHEREAS, A unique father-daughter waltz, known as Baile de
2 Papa, marks the beginning of a Quinceañera reception,
3 symbolizing the father's role in guiding the young girl as she
4 transitions into adulthood; and

5 WHEREAS, The waltz of honor, known as Vals de Honor, is
6 when the young woman, her escort of honor, and the court of
7 damas and chambelanes showcase a choreographed dance to
8 symbolize the fifteen years of the young woman's life,
9 anticipated by esteemed family and guests; and

10 WHEREAS, A Quinceañera provides new generations with the
11 ability to recall their cultural heritage, preserve
12 traditions, and strengthen the bonds between family and
13 community; and

14 WHEREAS, Quinceañeras have evolved while honoring
15 tradition, and as the 15th year of Latino Unity Day is
16 celebrated, it is important to realize the power of lifting up
17 Latine voices, amplifying Latine stories, and advocating for
18 equity in Latine communities while continuing ongoing efforts
19 to ensure that the next generation of Latine leaders is
20 empowered towards shaping a more just and inclusive future;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, A Quinceañera is a beloved celebration among

1 Spanish-speaking communities across the globe, and it
2 emphasizes the importance of the Latine family and the
3 historical traditions of their indigenous ancestors;
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare May 8, 2025
7 as Quinceañera Day in the State of Illinois.