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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, On December 5, 2006, the Mexican Fine Arts Center
3 Museum in Pilsen changed its name to the National Museum of
4 Mexican Art in recognition of its 20th anniversary and its
5 status as the largest and leading Mexican cultural institution
6 in the United States; and

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WHEREAS, The new tenet of the Museum is "Celebrating Our
8 Past, Envisioning Our Future"; the tenet evokes the Museum's
9 dedication to first voice presentation of Mexican cultural
10 traditions, as well as the vision to be the leading cultural
11 voice for this country's growing Mexican population; and

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WHEREAS, The Museum is the largest Latino cultural
13 organization in the United States; it is the largest in budget
14 size, staff size, and quantity of programs; the Museum is the
15 only Latino museum in the United States accredited by the
16 American Association of Museums; the Museum has created more
17 national and international touring exhibitions, such as the
18 current African Presence in Mexico traveling exhibition, than
19 any Latino museum in the nation; and

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WHEREAS, The Museum receives more than 200,000 visitors per
21 year from more than 60 countries; founded by teachers, the
22 Museum's education programs directly serve more than 50,000 K-

1 12 students annually, and educational curriculum developed by
2 Museum staff is distributed throughout the U.S. and Mexico; and

3 WHEREAS, The National Museum of Mexican Art has 8,000 items
4 in its permanent collection; the collection is one of the five
5 largest collections of Mexican art in the U.S.; and

6 WHEREAS, Chicago is home to more than 1.3 million Mexicans,
7 and the Museum has taken a leadership role in establishing the
8 Midwest as a national center of Mexican culture; therefore, be
9 it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
12 congratulate those who conceived the idea of the Mexican Fine
13 Arts Center Museum on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of
14 the Museum and recognize the name change to the National Museum
15 of Mexican Art in honor of this anniversary; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the National Museum of Mexican Art President
18 Carlos Tortolero.