



Legislation Text

File #: Res 1027-2019, **Version:** *

Res. No. 1027

Resolution recognizing August 10 as Ecuadorian Heritage Day in New York City.

By Council Member Moya

Whereas, The first notable wave of Ecuadorian immigrants arriving in New York City occurred after the fall of the Panama hat trade in the 1950s and 1960s; and

Whereas, The Panama hat has its origins in Ecuador starting in the 1600s, but demand for the hat declined and many Ecuadorians who lost their jobs migrated to the United States (U.S.); and

Whereas, Since then, the migration of Ecuadorians has ebbed and flowed with the health of Ecuador's economy, dropping in the 1970s during an economic boom and increasing in the 1980s and 1990s due to the fall in oil prices and historic flooding; and

Whereas, According to the Pew Research Center, the U.S. Ecuadorian population was 707,428 in 2015 and 40 percent live in New York State; and

Whereas, The U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey for 2017 estimates that the Ecuadorian population in New York City is 206,167; and

Whereas, Ecuadorians celebrate independence from Spain on August 10; and

Whereas, In 1808, King Ferdinand VII of Spain was deposed of his throne by Napoleon Bonaparte after he invaded Spain; and

Whereas, Napoleon's brother, Joseph, was then given the King's title, sparking a rebellion in Ecuador against French control; and

Whereas, On August 10, 1809, the rebels took power over Quito, the Ecuadorian capital, and displaced the representatives of Joseph Bonaparte; and

Whereas, The rebels were defeated within weeks as they lacked broad support at the time; and

Whereas, Though full independence was years away, this was the first step and is celebrated today as “El Dia del Primer Grito de Independencia de Quito” (The day of the first declaration of independence of Quito); and

Whereas, Ecuadorian Independence is celebrated in Queens every August with an Ecuadorian Independence Day parade in Jackson Heights and the Ecuadorian Arts Fair in Flushing Meadows Corona Park; and

Whereas, It is time for New York City to recognize the important role of the fourth largest Latinx population in the City in the development of the City; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York recognizes August 10 as Ecuadorian Heritage Day in New York City.

CP
LS 9756
3/28/19