



Legislation Text

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Res. No. 405

Resolution calling upon Congress to pass and the President to sign H.R. 1217 and S. 568 to establish the Smithsonian American Latino Museum and designate the Arts and Industries Building as its future location in Washington, D.C.

By The Speaker (Council Member Mark-Viverito) and Council Members Van Bramer, Cohen, Chin, Cumbo, Dickens, Eugene, Koo, Palma, Koslowitz, Levin, Crowley, Constantinides, Barron, Menchaca, Miller, Lander and Gibson

Whereas, According to the 2012 Census Bureau American Community Survey, there are approximately 53 million people of Latino descent living in the United States, of which over 2.3 million reside in New York City; and

Whereas, In fact, the Latino population is the largest ethnic minority group in the country, according to the most recent Census data; and

Whereas, In March 2013, Congressman Xavier Becerra and Senator Robert Menendez introduced H.R. 1217 and S.568, respectively; and

Whereas, H.R. 1217 and S.568 would establish within the Smithsonian Institution the Smithsonian American Latino Museum (“the Museum”); and

Whereas, This legislation would designate the Arts and Industries Building on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as the future location for the Museum and would begin a planning period to identify viable fundraising and construction models for the construction and operation of the Museum; and

Whereas, The passage of this legislation would guarantee a commitment to the arts, to the principles of diversity and to building a more inclusive community, and would show recognition and appreciation for the vital role that Latinos play in American life, art, culture, industry, neighborhoods and communities across the

nation; and

Whereas, It is of great importance to support the establishment of the Museum, among the other landmark Smithsonian institutions, to highlight the history of the Latino community and to honor Latinos for their significant contributions to our culture and society; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon Congress to pass and the President to sign H.R. 1217 and S. 568 to establish the Smithsonian American Latino Museum and designate the Arts and Industries Building as its future location in Washington, D.C.

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9/2/14
4:25 p.m.
TC