

HR 8075

2024

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating the month of November 2024 as
3 "Puerto Rican Heritage Month" and recognizing the
4 significant contributions of Puerto Ricans to
5 Florida's cultural mosaic.

6
7 WHEREAS, Florida is home to nearly 1.2 million proud Puerto
8 Rican United States citizens, fostering a sense of unity and
9 shared identity with fellow Americans, and

10 WHEREAS, Florida embraces a diverse population, including a
11 thriving Puerto Rican community that contributes substantially
12 to our state, and

13 WHEREAS, the storied history of Puerto Rico includes the
14 Spanish American War, where the island became a territory of the
15 United States in 1898, shaping its relationship with the
16 mainland, and

17 WHEREAS, Puerto Ricans became United States citizens under
18 the Jones-Shafroth Act in 1917, contributing to the historical
19 ties between Puerto Rico and the United States, and

20 WHEREAS, Puerto Rico, as a Commonwealth of the United
21 States since 1952, holds a unique status that contributes to its
22 distinctive cultural identity, and

23 WHEREAS, Maurice Antonio Ferré became a distinguished
24 Puerto Rican-American politician who served as the first Puerto
25 Rican-born United States mayor and the first Hispanic Mayor of

26 Miami, from 1973 to 1985, contributing significantly to the
 27 city's growth and development, and

28 WHEREAS, the distinguished service of the 65th Infantry
 29 Regiment, known as the "Borinqueneers," during various
 30 conflicts, earned them the Congressional Gold Medal, making them
 31 the first Hispanic American unit to receive the award,
 32 showcasing their valor and dedication to the United States, and

33 WHEREAS, Puerto Rico has made remarkable achievements in
 34 art, with renowned artists like Francisco Oller, a leading
 35 figure in the 19th-century art movement, contributing to the
 36 cultural landscape, and

37 WHEREAS, Puerto Rico has made significant contributions to
 38 science, with notable figures like Dr. Antonia Novello, who
 39 served as the 14th Surgeon General of the United States, leading
 40 groundbreaking advancements in public health, and

41 WHEREAS, the island's rich sports legacy, epitomized by
 42 legendary figures like Roberto Clemente Walker, a humanitarian
 43 and baseball Hall of Famer, with more than 40 schools and 200
 44 parks named in his honor, has left an enduring impact on the
 45 world of athletics, and

46 WHEREAS, Puerto Rico has played a role in politics,
 47 producing influential leaders such as Herman Badillo, the first
 48 Puerto Rican-born member of the United States House of
 49 Representatives, and Nydia Velázquez, the first Puerto Rican
 50 woman elected to the United States House of Representatives, who

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51 | have contributed to the political landscape both locally and
52 | nationally, and

53 | WHEREAS, the cultural exchange between Puerto Rico and
54 | Florida has strengthened the bonds of friendship and cooperation
55 | and has enhanced the overall well-being of our communities, and

56 | WHEREAS, the celebration of Puerto Rican Heritage Month
57 | offers an opportunity to learn about Puerto Rican culture,
58 | history, and achievements, NOW, THEREFORE,

59 |

60 | Be It Resolved by the Florida House of Representatives:

61 |

62 | That the month of November 2024 is designated as "Puerto
63 | Rican Heritage Month," celebrating the rich cultural tapestry
64 | and myriad contributions of Puerto Ricans to Florida's diverse
65 | and dynamic heritage.