



League of United Latin American Citizens

Resolution Urging Congressional Action to Create Cesar E. Chavez National Historical Park

Whereas, President Barack Obama established the Cesar E. Chavez National Monument at Nuestra Senora Reina de la Paz in Keene, California on October 8, 2012. In his Presidential Proclamation, Obama enumerated four sites significant to the farm labor movement to have a relationship to the Monument in the management plan, including the Forty Acres National Historic Landmark site, Filipino Community Hall in Delano, California, the Santa Rita Center in Phoenix, Arizona, and McDonnell Hall in San Jose, California; and

Whereas, Congresswoman Hilda Solis and Senator John McCain had initiated the process of historical resource study relating to Cesar E. Chavez and the Farm Labor Movement with joint introduction and the passage of federal legislation signed by President George W. Bush in May 2008; and

Whereas, Rev. Deacon Sal Alvarez, M.S.W., California LULAC State Chaplain, testified on behalf of LULAC National in March 2007 at the request of Congresswoman Hilda Solis before the U.S. Congressional Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, while also concurrently serving as Chair of the LULAC National Healthcare Commission, in support of federal legislation (HR 359) requiring the U.S. Secretary of Interior to complete a resource study of sites in the western United States in consideration of the criteria for the study of areas for potential inclusion in the National Park System, among other requirements; and

Whereas, U.S. Secretary of Interior Kenneth Salazar championed the initiation and completion of the Cesar Chavez Special Resource Study by the National Park Service; and

Whereas, at the conclusion of the Cesar Chavez Special Resource Study, U.S. Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell recommended to Congress in Fall 2013 the establishment of a new national historical park to include five sites: (1) the Forty Acres National Historic Landmark site, (2) the Filipino Community Hall in Delano, California, (3) Nuestra Senora Reina de la Paz (the Cesar E. Chavez National Monument) in Keene, California, (4) McDonnell Hall in San Jose, California, and (5) the Santa Rita Center in Phoenix, Arizona, as well as exploration of opportunities to interpret and commemorate the historic 1966 March Route from Delano to Sacramento; and

Whereas, members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus have introduced legislation and leaders among the California congressional delegation, among others, have demonstrated commitment to advancing and achieving the establishment of a Cesar E. Chavez National Historical Park.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that LULAC National strongly urges and supports Congressional action to create the Cesar E. Chavez National Historical Park, including Forty Acres, Filipino Community Hall, and McDonnell Hall in California and the Santa Rita Center in Arizona, as recommended by the U.S. Secretary of Interior in Fall 2013.

Voted and approved at the 2016 National LULAC Convention - July 16, 2016.

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.
LULAC National President