Relating to: recognizing and proclaiming Hispanic Heritage Month, a month-long celebration of the culture and traditions of U.S. residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

Whereas, the story of Hispanics and Latinos is the story of America, in that they have contributed in various fields, from the arts, sciences, sports, and culture to the economy, have encompassed the American dream, and have brought the energy and drive of recent immigrants to this country; and

Whereas, Latinos serve in government at every level, from school boards to the state house, from city councils and mayoral offices to Congress; and

Whereas, Latinos have served with honor and distinction in every conflict involving the United States since the Revolutionary War and have made valuable contributions through their service to this country; and
Whereas, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that by July 2015 the Hispanic population had surpassed 54 million people, constituting 17 percent of the total population of the United States, making Hispanics the largest minority group; and

Whereas, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that by 2060 Latino people will comprise over 28 percent of the total U.S. population, with 119 million residing in the United States; and

Whereas, only Mexico has a larger Hispanic population than the United States; and

Whereas, Puerto Rico is part of the United States and all Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens; and

Whereas, more than 364,000 Latinos call Wisconsin home; and

Whereas, Latinos are the fastest growing constituency in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Latino Wisconsinites are known for their strong work ethic and commitment to their families, and Latino Wisconsinites contribute immensely to many communities across this great state; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That: the members of the Wisconsin Legislature honor the achievements of Hispanics and Latinos in America and honor the many ways they continue to enrich our nation and shape our common future; and, be it further

Resolved, That following in the footsteps of Congress, the Wisconsin Legislature proclaims September 15 to October 15 Hispanic Heritage Month in Wisconsin.