

**House Resolution**

**No. 5**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Cristina Garcia**

January 8, 2015

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House Resolution No. 5—Relative to Mexico and human rights.

1 WHEREAS, On September 26, 2014, 43 college students from  
2 the Ayotzinapa Normal School in Guerrero, Mexico, disappeared  
3 in Iguala, Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, Mexico’s Attorney General, Jesús Murillo Karam,  
5 announced in a televised press conference on November 7, 2014,  
6 that the evidence indicates the 43 missing students had been  
7 executed and incinerated in the municipal dump of Cocula, Mexico,  
8 by the Guerreros Unidos cartel; and

9 WHEREAS, It has been estimated that 25,000 to 26,000 people  
10 have disappeared in Mexico since 2006; and

11 WHEREAS, The disappeared often include the very vulnerable,  
12 such as poor migrants, indigenous people, and women and children;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, According to a report by Human Rights Watch,  
15 the state and federal army units in Iguala failed to intervene to  
16 protect the students; and

17 WHEREAS, The director of the American division of Human  
18 Rights Watch, José Manuel Vivanco, described the murders in  
19 Iguala, Mexico, and an earlier massacre in Tlatlaya, Mexico, as  
20 “the worst atrocities we’ve seen in Mexico in years, but they are  
21 hardly isolated incidents”; and

22 WHEREAS, There has been an international outcry regarding  
23 the deaths of the missing students in Mexico from, among others,  
24 the United Nations, the Parliament of the United Kingdom, the

1 European Parliament, and the international human rights  
2 community; and

3 WHEREAS, On July 20, 2014, A Memorandum of  
4 Understanding for Strengthening Trade and Investment  
5 Cooperation Between the Ministry of Economy of the United  
6 Mexican States and the Government of the State of California of  
7 the United States of America was signed by Governor Jerry Brown  
8 of the State of California and Minister Ildefonso Guajardo  
9 Villarreal of the United States of Mexico; and

10 WHEREAS, The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding  
11 “is to establish a formal and flexible framework between the  
12 Participants to expand trade and investment cooperation, foster  
13 scientific and technological collaboration for business development  
14 in emerging key sectors, strengthen communication, enhance trust,  
15 boost economic development and create jobs”; now, therefore, be  
16 it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California,* That the  
18 Assembly adds its voice to those in the international community  
19 condemning the disappearance and deaths of the missing college  
20 students from Mexico as a violation of human rights, and offers  
21 its support to all those in Mexico standing up for human rights and  
22 justice against corruption and violence; and be it further

23 *Resolved,* That the Assembly urges Governor Jerry Brown to  
24 suspend the Memorandum of Understanding between California  
25 and the United Mexican States and urges the State of California  
26 to divest from doing business with the United Mexican States until  
27 the human rights of the people of Mexico have been reevaluated;  
28 and be it further

29 *Resolved,* That the Assembly urges the government of Mexico  
30 to support further dialogue between the international community,  
31 including the United States, and human rights organizations on  
32 human rights reforms; and be it further

33 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
34 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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