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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER ABEL GUILLÉN

RESOLUTION IN CELEBRATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH HONORING ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS WHOSE SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP IN OAKLAND CONTRIBUTE TO THE CITY'S CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND ITS SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans have made essential and enduring contributions to the history of Oakland, California and the nation, helping to build, defend, and strengthen our nation – as farmworkers and railroad laborers, entrepreneurs and scientists, soldiers, and community activists and leaders of government; and

WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans have endured hardships, including unjust working conditions, prejudice, and discrimination in some of the darkest times in our country's history, including the Chinese Exclusion Act, naturalized citizenship ineligibility, the Alien Land Law, anti-miscegenation laws, and Japanese internment; and

WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans continue to cultivate and advance innovative knowledge, economic growth and unique cultural vitality in the fields of art, fashion, business, technology, medicine, science, education, government, law, humanities, sports and entertainment; and

WHEREAS, Oakland is home to nearly 70,000 Asian and Pacific Islander Americans, and Asian and Pacific Islander Americans are one of the fastest growing ethnic populations in California; and

WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans comprise more than 17 percent of Oakland's population and represent diverse ancestries that include, but are not limited to, Asian Indian, Bangladeshi, Bhutanese, Burmese, Cambodian, Chamorro, Chinese, Taiwanese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Iu-Mien, Iwo Jiman, Guamanian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Maldivian, Mongolian, Nepalese, Native Hawaiian, Vietnamese, Okinawan, Pakistani, Samoan, Singaporean, Sri Lankan, Thai, Tongan, and other Pacific Islander; and

WHEREAS, California's Asian and Pacific Islander American entrepreneurs are innovative and lead many successful businesses at the leading edge of their industries nationally and globally, and own many businesses in Oakland's diverse neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the federal government and the State of California officially designate May as "Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month;" and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month offers Oakland residents an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions and history of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans; now; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: The City of Oakland commends Asian and Pacific Islander Americans for their notable accomplishments and contributions to our community, and recognizes May 2017 as Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON
 MCELHANEY, GUILLÉN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID AND
 PRESIDENT REID

NOES –
ABSENT –
ABSTENTION –

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California