

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. _____

Proclaiming May 2017 as Asian and Pacific Islanders Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Asians and Pacific Islanders are the largest growing community among Oregon's 36 counties with 220,000 people across the state, 90,000 in Multnomah County, with people who communicate in over 100 diverse cultures and languages.
- b. Asians and Pacific Islanders have lived and worked in Oregon for more than 200 years, contributing to the state's rich history, economy and culture. This migration has been both voluntary and forced due to war and environmental degradation in their native countries.
- c. Oregon's Asian and Pacific Islander history is both heroic and harrowing as the community has worked to thrive despite harassment and discrimination, both of which are on the rise today. Today this discrimination is at a high with a national and local spike in hate crimes against the community, especially targeting its' Muslim, South Asian, and Southeast Asian members.
- d. Despite the significant and historic contributions of Asians and Pacific Islanders, persistent disparities exist. Multnomah County is committed to working together with community partners in order to eliminate disparities by removing impediments to success through programs to increase social inclusion, reduce poverty, ensure language access, healthcare, and support meaningful civic engagement.
- e. Multnomah County welcomes and supports the belonging of Asian and Pacific Islander Oregonians as vital members of its community. The County actively works with the community to ensure its safety and well-being.
- f. The month of May 2017 is nationally recognized as a time to celebrate the contributions of Asian and Pacific Islanders to our society and collective history.
- g. The goal of this proclamation is to continue joint efforts to eliminate barriers to the success and safety of the thriving Asian and Pacific Islander Community in Multnomah County.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

The month of May 2017 as Asian and Pacific Islanders Heritage month celebrating all residents of Multnomah County who identify as Asian and/or Pacific Islanders.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 20__.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By _____
Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY:

Lori Stegmann, District 4 Commissioner