

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION NO. 08-127

Proclaiming September 15th through October 15th, 2008 Latino/Latina Heritage Month in Multnomah County Oregon

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. The Latino/Latina heritage of the United States extends historically over five centuries, which has been a consistent and vital influence in our country's growth and prosperity; and
- b. Multnomah County takes great pride in the diversity of our community and in the impressive and valuable contributions made by our Latino/Latina residents to the County's growth, prosperity and well-being.
- c. Latinos represent people with origins from 21 different countries including Spain, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Guatemala, El Salvador, The Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela and the United States. The Latino people reflect a wide array of races, religions and cultures. Today, Multnomah County is home to 63,355 Latinos.
- d. Latinos have contributed to the rich history of Multnomah County and the State of Oregon for over 225 years, beginning with the expedition of Spanish sailor Juan Perez and his Mexican crew along the coasts of Oregon and Washington.
- e. In 2001, Oregon's Hispanic buying power reached \$2.9 billion annually and over 70% of Latinos in Multnomah County over the age of 16 are in the workforce.
- f. The more than 357 Latinos employed by Multnomah County bring language, cultural assets, diversity and richness to our workforce.
- g. The City of Portland and Multnomah County are jointly proclaiming Latino/Latina Heritage Month in their jurisdictions and have partnered to organize events and activities for their employees and community members;

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

September 15th through October 15th, 2008 as Latino/Latina Heritage month in Multnomah county, Oregon in recognition and celebration of the many contributions of Latinos to the county and our community. We urge all residents of Multnomah County to celebrate the history and recognize the contributions of Latinos to our community, state, and nation.

ADOPTED this 18th day of September, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON


Ted Wheeler, County Chair


Maria Rojo de Steffey
Commissioner District 1




Jeff Cogen
Commissioner District 2


Lisa Naito
Commissioner District 3


Lonnie Roberts
Commissioner District 4

SUBMITTED BY:

Maria Rojo de Steffey, Multnomah County Commissioner, District 1