



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: May 12, 2026

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,
Proclaiming May 2026 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI)
Heritage Month in Sonoma County**

Whereas, the month of May is nationally recognized as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, a time to honor and celebrate the rich history, cultural diversity, achievements, and contributions of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities; and

Whereas, the 2026 national Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month theme, “Power in Unity: Strengthening Communities Together,” highlights the importance of our collective strength, storytelling, and building bridges across communities; and

Whereas, the month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States in 1843 and the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869, built in large part by Chinese immigrant labor. We also must acknowledge the long and painful history of discrimination in the United States, including the Chinese Exclusion Act, the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II, and race-based immigration restrictions; and

Whereas, the community trauma of these and other historic injustices is renewed in the face of current immigration enforcement practices, including racial profiling, family separation, detention of children, and arrests without due process, continuing a legacy of discrimination

that disproportionately harms immigrant communities, including AANHPI residents; and

Whereas, Sonoma County affirms that humane, and lawful immigration policies are necessary for a healthy democracy, and that such policies must keep families together, safeguard children, and uphold the dignity, civil rights, and safety of every person; and

Whereas, Sonoma County has taken steps to recognize AANHPI history and contributions, including Petaluma's exhibit of its rediscovered Chinatown and the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, which led to the arrival of Cambodian, Hmong, Khmu, Lao, Mien, Vietnamese and other Southeast Asian refugees across the United States and here in Sonoma County, and recognizes the importance of ensuring that AANHPI communities are visible, heard, and meaningfully included in civic life; and

Whereas, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander residents comprise approximately 7% of the County's population, they represent a vibrant and growing community, including over 4,400 AAPI-owned businesses contributing to the local economy; and

Whereas, Sonoma County stands united with the Asian American Pacific Islander Coalition of North Bay and other community organizations against hate crimes, xenophobia, racism, violence, harassment and discrimination, and that Sonoma County affirms its commitment to fostering an inclusive and equitable community where all residents are respected, supported, and able to thrive.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of May 2026 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Sonoma County, and that the Board encourages all residents, community organizations, businesses, and institutions to participate in activities and programs that celebrate and honor the contributions of AANHPI communities.

Resolution #26-

Date:

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Supervisors:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Hermosillo:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.