



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: May 14, 2024

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

Majority Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Proclaiming May 2024 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Sonoma County

Whereas, May marks the national celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the United States and we take this time to honor the rich history, cultural diversity, achievement and contributions of AAPI people in Sonoma County; and

Whereas, Sonoma County works to recognize, celebrate and support its ethnically diverse populations; and

Whereas, Asian and Pacific Islanders currently comprise 5.1% of the county's population; and

Whereas, Asian and Pacific Islanders have a long, difficult, and storied history in Sonoma County that is characterized by exploitation, discrimination, racism, and violence; and

Whereas, Asian and Pacific Islanders have contributed to the economic well-being of Sonoma County for over 150 years; and

Whereas, 60% of Asian and Pacific Islander Sonoma County current residents are immigrants; and

Whereas, the Sonoma County API population's Human Development Index is below the average for APIs across the entire state*; and

Whereas, API cultural mores and traditions tend to keep API families and individuals from seeking any needed economic, social, health or psychological help; and

Whereas, Sonoma County's Youth Truth survey data from our schools indicate that results for the API youth show that as a whole, they generally report higher rates of stress and have fewer ways to cope than the general population; and

Whereas, the continued resiliency and determination of APIs prevail today in the face of continued anti-Asian hate, barriers to economic justice, health equity, scapegoating and exclusion; and

Whereas, the API population of Sonoma County contribute greatly to the vibrancy and diversity of our region; and

Whereas, Sonoma County and organizations such as the Asian American Pacific Islander Coalition of the North Bay continue to strive to address gaps in communication, in data gathering and in outreach; and

Whereas, we must all find alternate, effective ways to reach the hidden, silent API communities to support mental and economic health.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved we call upon Sonoma County government, non-profits, businesses, educational institutions, and all API communities to partner and elevate voices; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Board of Supervisors, in recognition of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, hereby proclaim the month of May 2024 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Sonoma County.

*The SoCo API index is 6.86, which is BELOW the state's index for APIs of 7.94 overall.
Portrait of Sonoma, 2021 Update ... page 11 and Portrait of California, pages 37-38.

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Date:

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Supervisors:

Gorin:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.