

2 **RESOLUTION: Designate May as Asian American and Pacific Heritage Month**

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5 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

6 **WHEREAS**, in 1977, Congress introduced a house resolution to proclaim the first 10 days of May as Asian
7 Pacific Heritage Week, a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States; and

8 **WHEREAS**, in October 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a resolution designating this week as an
9 annual celebration, which we now know as Asian Pacific Heritage Week; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in 1990, May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United
11 States, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad in which the majority of the
12 workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants; and

13 **WHEREAS**, understanding Asian and Pacific Islander history is an important part of celebrating Asian
14 American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have endured and overcome hardship and heartache. In
16 the earliest years, tens of thousands of Gold Rush pioneers, coal miners, transcontinental railroad builders, as well
17 as farm and orchard laborers, were subject to unjust working conditions, prejudice, and discrimination; and

18 **WHEREAS**, even in the periods of the Exclusion Act and Japanese Internment, Asian Americans and Pacific
19 Islanders have persevered, providing for their families and creating opportunities for their children; and

20 **WHEREAS**, we acknowledge the historical and cultural contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in the
21 development of the State of Wisconsin; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the diversity of these groups includes Asian Indian, Bengali, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese,
23 Filipino, Guamanian, Hawaiian, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Malayan, Okinawan, Pakistani,
24 Samoan, Thai, Vietnamese, and others.

25 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that beginning May
26 2021 and every May hereinafter as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is declared with appropriate
27 instructional activities to recognize the countless contributions that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made
28 to this nation.
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31 Respectfully submitted by:
32 **Mike Norton, Winnebago County Supervisor District 29**
33 **Julie Gordon, Winnebago County Supervisor District 17**
34 **Tom Snider, Winnebago County Supervisor District 34**

35 Vote Required for Passage: **Majority.**

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37 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of _____, 2021.

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40 Jonathan Doemel
41 Winnebago County Executive
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