



State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1992, the month of May was designated as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month by the United States Congress to annually acknowledge Asian and Pacific Islander Americans across the nation. May was intentionally chosen to commemorate two milestones in US history: 1) the first Japanese immigration into the US on May 7, 1843; and 2) the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad on May 10, 1869 – an infrastructure project that relied on Chinese immigrants to clear the wilderness and lay tracks; and

WHEREAS, according to 2020 US Census estimates, the fastest growing population demographic is among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. In Iowa, 75,629 Asian Americans and 5,758 Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders with lineages that span the globe and more than 50 ethnicities - from West Asia to the Polynesian Islands - live, work and proudly call our state home; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islanders bring their skills, talents, and leadership to build and strengthen Iowa's communities, workforce, commerce, education; and

WHEREAS, members of Iowa's Asian American and Pacific Islander communities help shape Iowa's livelihood through the exchange of knowledge, culture, language, art; and

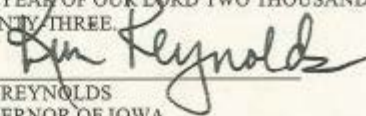
WHEREAS, the rich histories and breadth of cultures of Iowa's Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are to be appreciated, respected and factored as an integral part of our state's history and future and to be shared with all Iowans; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders continue to demonstrate their dedication to the ideals and Constitution upon which the United States was founded and to work for the advancement of human rights and democratic ideas throughout the world and in Iowa.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim
May 2023 as:


Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO
SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED.
DONE AT DES MOINES THIS FIRST DAY OF MAY IN
THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND
TWENTY THREE.



KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:



PAUL PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE