

**Resolution Proclaiming September 15, 2020 - October 15, 2020**

**Hispanic Heritage Month in Santa Barbara County**

*WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to recognize the significant contributions and achievements of Hispanic and Latino Americans who serve our nation in business, government, the military, law, education, science, athletics, the arts, and other fields; and*

*WHEREAS, according to the U. S. Census Bureau, as of July 1, 2019, 60.6 million people or 18.5% of the population are of Hispanic or Latino origin. This represents a significant increase from 2000, which registered the Hispanic population at 35.3 million or 13% of the total U.S. population. In California, Latinos are now the largest ethnic group and are projected to be a full majority by mid-century; and*

*WHEREAS, in 1968 President Lyndon B. Johnson and Congress celebrated the contributions of Hispanic Americans by officially proclaiming the week of September 15 as Hispanic Heritage Week. It was expanded under President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to its current month-long recognition; and*

*WHEREAS, the theme for 2020, "A History of Serving Our Nation" celebrates the significant contributions of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievement of the United States. This includes commitments to education, economic innovation and development, social justice, military service and culturally diverse communities; and*

*WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans have had a long history of leading movements for justice and equity, and are now actively participating in serving our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic as our teachers, business owners, scientists and soldiers, farmworkers and first responders, artists and activists, colleagues and friends. We honor the resilience and commitment of the Hispanic and Latino American community to work towards a brighter future for all residents of the County.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors declares September 15-October 15, 2020, as Hispanic Heritage Month in Santa Barbara County and calls on all residents of our community to join in supporting any activities that will occur, in a manner appropriate with COVID-19 regulations.*