



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY AS
ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE
MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month is a time to recognize the significant contributions of our past and present AAPI community members and to bring awareness to the difficulties that this community has had to endure and continues to endure; and

WHEREAS, May was selected as the heritage month in 1978 to commemorate two historical milestones in AAPI History: the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States on May 7, 1843, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869 — an achievement made possible largely through the labor of Chinese immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the first Asian to settle in Santa Barbara was Filipino Antonio Miranda Rodriguez—a founding pobladores of Los Angeles, who arrived in Santa Barbara in 1783 and was buried in the Presidio chapel—after whom came many Filipino residents and creation of the Filipino Community Association at 425 State; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara was once home to a thriving Chinatown centered on Canon Perdido Street beginning in the 1860s, and these early residents contributed to the region through abalone fishing, shipbuilding, farming, and small businesses. In the early 20th century, Japanese residents settled a Nihonmachi in the Canon Perdido Street area, including a grocery, boarding house and churches, and established successful farming businesses throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara residents were among the Japanese American, Filipino American, and Chinese American WWII veterans who were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2011, 2017, and 2020, respectively, in recognition of their service in spite of the abridgement or denial of the rights of citizenship.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors declares May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Santa Barbara County, and encourages all residents to honor and celebrate the vibrant legacy of the AAPI community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 20th day of May, 2025 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Maria Nolasco
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District