RESOLUTION NO. 21-168



DUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 15TH TO OCTOBER 15TH AS 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 the many other fields; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2019 American Community Survey estimates, 60.6 million people living in the United States, or 18.5% of the population, are Hispanic or Latino in origin - and that percentage increases to 39.4% of California's population and increases further to 46% of Santa Barbara County's population being Hispanic or Latino (approximately 205,390 people);

WHEREAS, 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, then expanded under President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to its current month-long recognition; and

WHEREAS, the theme for 2021, "Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope," this theme invites us to celebrate Hispanic Heritage and to reflect on how great our tomorrow can be if we hold onto our resilience and hope – it encourages us to reflect on all of the contributions Hispanics have made in the past, and will continue to make in the future and also reminds us that we are stronger together; and

WHEREAS, this month is a celebration of the significant contributions of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements 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, soldiers, farmworkers, first responders, artists, activists, colleagues, among many other professions; and

WHEREAS, we honor the resilience and commitment of the Hispanic and Latino American community as they work towards a brighter future for all residents of Santa Barbara County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors declares September 15-October 15, 2021, 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.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 14th day of September, 2021 by a unanimous vote of all members present.

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Supervisor - 2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District