

PROCLAMATION

*THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL 2017 AS*

THE SIKH AMERICAN COMMUNITY'S VAISAKHI CELEBRATION MONTH

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WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over 5 centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25,000,000 adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 500,000 adherents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the economic vibrancy of the United States as farmers, engineers, doctors, scientists, and business owners; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans continue to make strides toward securing religious liberty as patriotic members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of **Vaisakhi** includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates the month of April 2017 as the Sikh American community's **Vaisakhi** celebration month and wishes the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi.

Dated: April 25, 2017

SUPERVISORS:

DON HORSLEY, PRESIDENT

DAVE PINE

CAROLE GROOM

WARREN SLOCUM

DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors