

PROCLAMATION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING

FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

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WHEREAS, since 1988, communities across California and the United States have set aside the month of October to recognize the achievements and contributions of Filipinos and Filipino Americans of this country; and

WHEREAS, the earliest documented Filipino presence in the continental United States was October 18, 1587, when the first ‘Luzones Indios’ arrived in Morro Bay, California, on board the Nuestra Senora de Esperanza. Filipino American National Historical Society recognizes 1763 as the year in which the first permanent Filipino settlement in the United States was established in St. Malo, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Filipino American community is the third-largest Asian-American and Pacific Islander group in the United States, numbering approximately 4,000,000; and

WHEREAS, more than 250,000 Filipinos fought under the United States flag during World War II to protect and defend the United States and the Philippines in the Pacific theater.

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2016, President Barack Obama signed into law the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2015, which awarded Filipino veterans who fought alongside troops of the United States in World War II the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress; and

WHEREAS, Filipino American farmworkers and labor leaders, such as Philip Vera Cruz and Larry Itliong, played an integral role in the multiethnic United Farm Workers movement, alongside Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and other Latino workers; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans play an integral role in the health care system of the United States as nurses, doctors, and other medical professionals. Filipino Americans have also contributed greatly to music, dance, literature, education, business, journalism, sports, fashion, politics, government, science, technology, the fine arts, and other fields that enrich the landscape of the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates the Expressing support for the designation of the month of October 2020, as Filipino American History Month and celebrating the history and culture and their immense contributions to the United States.

Dated: October 20, 2020

SUPERVISORS:

WARREN SLOCUM, PRESIDENT

DAVE PINE

DON HORSLEY

CAROLE GROOM

DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest: Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors