

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, a time of celebration to acknowledge Asians and Pacific Islanders living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Asian-Pacific encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia and Easter Island); and

WHEREAS, in June 1977, Representatives Frank Horton of New York and Norman Y. Mineta of California introduced a House resolution that called upon the President to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian-Pacific Heritage Week; the following month, Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga introduced a similar bill in the Senate; both were passed and on October 5, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating the annual celebration; and

WHEREAS, twelve years later, President George H.W. Bush signed an extension making the week-long celebration into a month-long celebration; in 1992, the official designation of May as Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month was signed into law; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census, approximately 3% of Allegheny County residents are Asian or Pacific Islanders and just over 19,000 residents speak a language from one of these countries; Allegheny County is thankful the diverse population is our region and is proud to recognize Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as "Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month" in Allegheny County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 1st day of May, 2015.

Rich Fitzgerald

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