

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 1007

By: Munson, Pae, Fugate, Menz,
Schreiber, Hefner, and
Waldron of the House

4 and

5 Floyd of the Senate

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9 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing May as
10 Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month; recognizing
11 the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in
12 Oklahoma; and celebrating the contributions of Asian
13 Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of
14 Oklahoma and the United States.

15 WHEREAS, May is recognized by the United States Congress as
16 Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, honoring the contributions
17 and paying tribute to generations of Asian Americans and Pacific
18 Islanders (AAPI) who have made our state and nation their home; and

19 WHEREAS, Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month is celebrated in
20 May to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the
21 United States in May of 1843; and

22 WHEREAS, May also marks the anniversary of the completion of the
23 transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of those
24 who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants; and

1 WHEREAS, the Chinese were the first Asian group to settle in
2 Oklahoma, living in the Guthrie Territory after the Land Run of
3 1889; and

4 WHEREAS, the Japanese population quickly grew in Oklahoma in the
5 1920s and '40s, and during World War II, several fought for the
6 United States including four sons of Kutaro Nishimuta, a farmer in
7 Payne County. His sons served in the U.S. Army 442nd Regimental
8 Unit, an all-Japanese outfit and one of the most decorated units in
9 the war; and

10 WHEREAS, nearly three percent (3%) of all Oklahomans identify as
11 Asian American or Pacific Islander, citing origins in Cambodia,
12 China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine
13 Islands, Thailand, Vietnam, Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific
14 Islands; and

15 WHEREAS, Oklahoma City is home to "Little Saigon", the Asian
16 District made up of the state's largest population of Asian
17 descendants, predominately Vietnamese. Visitors flock to the
18 district each year to experience the international cuisine, culture,
19 and shopping; and

20 WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander citizens have made
21 a tremendous impact on our state and nation, serving in vital roles
22 as state and national leaders, starting businesses, making
23 breakthroughs in science and technology, serving in our military,
24 excelling in sports, arts, education, and more.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the month of May is recognized by the Oklahoma State Legislature as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of Oklahoma and the United States.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 17th day of May,
2023.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Adopted by the Senate the ____ day of _____, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the Senate