

Resolution

ENROLLED HOUSE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1007

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

and

Floyd of the Senate

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the Japanese population quickly grew in Oklahoma in the 1920s and '40s, and during World War II, several fought for the

United States including four sons of Kutaro Nishimuta, a farmer in Payne County. His sons served in the U.S. Army 442nd Regimental Unit, an all-Japanese outfit and one of the most decorated units in the war; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander citizens have made a tremendous impact on our state and nation, serving in vital roles as state and national leaders, starting businesses, making breakthroughs in science and technology, serving in our military, 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 17th day of May, 2023.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____
day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.
By: _____