

RESOLUTION NO. 061-2024(CRR),
First Reading

By President Cuda, Vice President Russell, Councilmember Mattox, Councilmember Cobb, Councilmember Larson, and Councilmember Petras

A Resolution recognizing May, 2024 as *National Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, together with other communities throughout the country, the City of Cleveland Heights recognizes the significant contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community is an inherently diverse population, composed of more than 45 distinct ethnicities and more than 100 language dialects; and

WHEREAS, according to the Census Bureau, the Asian-American population grew faster than any other racial or ethnic group over the last decade and surged nearly 72 percent between 2000 and 2015; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 22,000,000 residents of the United States who identify as Asian and approximately 1,600,000 residents of the United States who identify as Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, making up nearly 7 percent of the total population of the United States; and

WHEREAS, 2024 marks the 48th anniversary of Presidential Proclamation 4417 which condemned the incarceration of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents of Japanese ancestry during World War II; and

WHEREAS, 2024 also marks the 78th anniversary of the passage of the amendments made by the Act of July 2, 1946 (commonly known as the "Luce-Cellar Act of 1946") which allowed Filipinos and Indians to immigrate to the United States and become naturalized citizens; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made significant contributions to the United States at all levels of the Federal Government and in the United States Armed Forces, Including:

- Daniel K. Inouye, a Medal of Honor and Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient who, as President pro tempore of the Senate, was the highest ranking Asian-American government official in the history of the United States;

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- Dalip Singh Saund, the first Asian-American Congressman;
- Patsy T. Mink, the first woman of color and Asian-American woman to be elected to Congress;
- Hiram L. Fong, the first Asian-American Senator;
- Daniel K. Akaka, the first Senator of Native Hawaiian ancestry;
- Norman Y. Mineta, the first Asian-American member of a Presidential cabinet;
- Elaine L. Chao, the first Asian-American woman member of a Presidential cabinet; and
- Kamala D. Harris, the first woman and the first Asian-American to hold the Office of the Vice President.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council proclaims May, 2024 as *National Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month* and recognizes the importance of the celebration of the significant contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States.

SECTION 2. Notice of passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to join with other communities in this celebration and the need to proclaim *National Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month* on a timely basis. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



TONY CUDA
President of Council

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ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED: April 15, 2024

Presented to Mayor: 04/16/2024

Approved: 04/25/2024

KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor