

Submitted by: Assembly Chair LaFrance,
Assembly Vice-Chair Constant, Assembly
Members Cross, Dern, Perez-Verdia,
Petersen, Quinn-Davidson, Rivera, Sulte,
Sweet, Volland, Zaletel and Mayor Bronson
Prepared by: Anchorage Equity
Committee of the Assembly
For reading: April 25, 2023

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2023-XXX**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING
MAY 2023 AS ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH.**

WHEREAS, 47,000 persons who trace their roots to Asia and the Pacific Islands make their homes in Anchorage, constituting a vital part of Anchorage's diverse ethnic and social fabric, whose languages, cultures, and religious beliefs enrich our community in countless ways; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans' and Pacific Islanders' love of family, community, and hard work embody the founding principles of our city, state, and nation, with Asian American and Pacific Islander entrepreneurs strengthening our economy and community through hard work, dedication, and ingenuity; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month provides an opportunity to promote the study of Asian American and Pacific Islander history and culture, and the importance of education, history, and ethnicity in creating role models and establishing a proud cultural identity; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have a long tradition of military and public service, with many serving as public employees and first responders in Anchorage, and many serving or having served in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have distinguished themselves as community leaders in Alaska, including the recent election of Genevieve Mina as Alaska's second-ever Filipino-American state representative from Anchorage, the re-election of Scott Kawasaki as the state senator from Fairbanks, and the appointment of Junior Aumavae as Anchorage's Chief Equity Officer; and

WHEREAS, the 32nd Alaska State Legislature passed legislation honoring Korean Anchorage resident Insook Baik for her annual Thanksgiving meal drive by naming a bridge in Mountain View in her honor, the first bridge named after a Korean-American in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Emma Broyles of Anchorage was the first Alaskan and first Korean-American to be crowned as Miss America in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Polynesian Association of Alaska, Alaska Federation of Filipino

1 Americans, Inc., Korean American Community of Anchorage, Inc., and Korean
 2 Cultural Center Alaska will be hosting an Asian and Pacific Island Cultural Flag Day
 3 celebration at Delaney Park Strip on Saturday, May 20, 2023 to commemorate the
 4 arrival of the first Japanese to this nation on May 7, 1843, the Chinese workers who
 5 built the transcontinental railroad completed on May 10, 1869, the first Filipinos who
 6 landed at Morro Bay in California in 1587, the first-ever settlement of Filipinos in North
 7 America in 1763 in Southern Louisiana, and the first raising of the American flag over
 8 Tutuila Island on American Samoa on April 17, 1900.

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 10 **NOW, THEREFORE,** the Anchorage Assembly in recognition of the many
 11 contributions and achievements of Anchorage’s Asian American and Pacific Islander
 12 residents, past, present, and future, the Anchorage Assembly recognizes May 2023
 13 as:

14 **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

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 16 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 25 day of April, 2023.
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 Chair

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 23 ATTEST:

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 27 Municipal Clerk