**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE MAY 2022 AS “ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH” IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, during Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, celebrated nationally each May, it is especially appropriate to recognize the contributions that generations of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPIs) have made to American history, society, and culture; and

Whereas, the history of AANHPI Americans in the United States is a long and honorable one. Determined to uphold America’s promise of freedom and opportunity for all, generations of AANHPI men and women have helped this nation grow and prosper. A century and a half ago, many of these Americans contributed to the economic development of the United States through their labors on the plantations of Hawaii and in the mines of California. The important role played by many Asian and Pacific Americans in the building of the first transcontinental railroad is well documented; their determination and hard work are well known. With diligent effort and abiding faith in the American Dream, Asian and Pacific Americans have steadily advanced, earning ever greater respect and admiration from their fellow citizens; and

Whereas, today, men and women of AANHPI ancestry continue to make many important contributions to our nation. In science, commerce, education, and the arts, Asian and Pacific Americans are not only sharing with us their unique talents and ideas but also setting high standards of achievement. For example, through their commitment to academic excellence and their superlative accomplishments in many areas of study, Asian and Pacific American students have provided a model for the nation; and

Whereas, time and again throughout our nation’s history, AANHPI Americans have demonstrated their dedication to ideals upon which the United States is founded. In times of war and in times of peace, they have faithfully defended the principles of freedom and representative government. They have worked for the advancement of human rights and democratic ideals around the world, and they have promoted greater appreciation for our system of self‑government here at home; and

Whereas, in May, the citizens of South Carolina join with their neighbors of Asian and Pacific descent as they celebrate the unique customs and traditions of their ancestral homelands. These customs and traditions have deeply enriched the wonderful heritage Americans share as a nation. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare May 2022 as “Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month” in the State of South Carolina.

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