

STATE OF MICHIGAN



CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN,
I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

May 2025

as

ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month commemorates the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7, 1843, and marks the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, in which the majority of workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants; and,

WHEREAS, Asian Americans are the fastest growing population in the nation and Michigan, with approximately 350,000 Asian Americans in Michigan, making up over 3.5% of the state's population; and,

WHEREAS, members of the AAPI community have shared their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education, and diversity in faith and creed, which have strengthened our great democracy; and,

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders living in Michigan are a vital and valued part of our state, making significant contributions to academia, business, medicine, law, technology, government, science, and social justice, making our state a better place to live; and,

WHEREAS, despite the strength shown and successes achieved by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, we saw a staggering rise in bullying, discrimination, and hate crimes against the AAPI community during the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, during this month, we should recommit ourselves to promoting equity and acceptance for the AAPI community, stand up against discrimination and hatred, and ensure that our state is a welcoming and inclusive place for all; and,

WHEREAS, we should also recognize and celebrate the many significant cultural, historical, and economic contributions Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made to Michigan and the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, and Garlin Gilchrist II, lieutenant governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Michigan.

A handwritten signature of Garlin Gilchrist II in blue ink.

Garlin Gilchrist II
Lieutenant Governor

A handwritten signature of Gretchen Whitmer in blue ink.

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

