

Proclamation

Board of Commissioners for Washington County

A PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
September 15 – October 15, 2019

WHEREAS, each year, the United States observes National Hispanic Heritage Month by celebrating the culture, heritage and countless contributions of those whose ancestors were indigenous to North America as well as those who came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South America; and

WHEREAS, what began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Johnson and was expanded by President Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme, "*Hispanic Americans: A History of Serving Our Nation*," invites us to reflect on the legacy of Hispanic and Latino Americans who have served our country in the past and also those who continue to serve in significant and enduring ways today; and

WHEREAS, although too numerous to recognize individually by name, Latinos serve as civil rights leaders and community organizers, politicians, soldiers, educators, journalists, first responders, pioneers in art and science, healthcare professionals, athletes, inventors, entertainers and so much more; and

WHEREAS, we are eternally grateful for the spirit of young Virginia Garcia, who's tragic and preventable death over four decades ago, led local community activists to establish the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, as well as Centro Cultural, both dedicated to providing advocacy, outreach and direct services to migrant community members; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics continue their rich history of significant and diverse contributions to the cultural, educational, economic and political vitality of Washington County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this tenth day of September 2019, the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim September 15th – October 15th, 2019 as Hispanic Heritage Month and encourage all residents to honor the rich diversity of the Latino community and celebrate the many ways they contribute to our nation and society.

Kathryn Harrington, Washington County Board Chair

Recording Secretary

Minute Order