



WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to celebrate the culture, history, and contributions of Hispanic American citizens and highlights their countless achievements and contributions; and,

WHEREAS, the observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon B. Johnson; this was observed annually until 1988 when it was expanded by President Ronald Reagan to the period of September 15th through October 15th and became National Hispanic Heritage Month, and this has been celebrated annually since then; and,

WHEREAS, more than sixty million Americans of Hispanic origin today contribute to our national diversity, enriching the quality of American life with centuries old traditions that reflect the multi-ethnic and multicultural customs of their communities, while adding their own distinct and dynamic perspectives to the story of our country; and,

WHEREAS, this observance affords special opportunities to become more knowledgeable about Hispanic heritage and to honor the many Hispanic Americans who represent a significant and fast growing demographic of Gaston County, we honor the invaluable ways these citizens contribute to our country and county.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim the month beginning September 15 and ending October 15, 2021 as

### ***National Hispanic Heritage Month***

and urge all citizens to join us in celebrating the great contributions of Hispanic Americans to our county, state, and nation.

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Tom Keigher, Chairman

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Chad Brown

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Kim Johnson

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Allen R. Fraley, Vice-Chairman

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Tracy L. Philbeck

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Bob Hovis

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Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 28<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2021