

Proclamation

Thereas, throughout its history, New York State has welcomed people of every nationality from around the world and, during Hispanic Heritage Month, we take the opportunity to recognize the distinct Hispanic and Latino communities that thrive in this state and nation; and

hereas, established by the United States Congress, Hispanic Heritage Month is annually celebrated from September 15th to October 15th – with September 15th marking the anniversary of declared independence for five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua – followed by the anniversary of declared independence by Mexico on September 16th, Chile on September 18th, and Belize on September 21st; and

Thereas, New York State is proud of our vibrant Hispanic and Latino communities that are the foundation of many neighborhoods which have taken root and flourished across our state; each day, they benefit our lives through their contributions in all areas – education, healthcare, science and technology, the arts and entertainment, and sports – and they have grown to become a major force in our economy as business owners, entrepreneurs, and CEOs of corporations and companies of all kinds; and

Thereas, today, Hispanics and Latinos have a significant impact on our political landscape, currently holding many elected offices and public roles and serving at all levels of government in our state and nation, and we are committed to ensuring that New York State's leadership reflects the diversity of our communities; and

Whereas, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we saw firsthand the impact of our Hispanic and Latino populations heroically working on the frontlines of emergency medical services and as members of our police and fire departments, as well as essential workers in other critical areas, and we honor them all; and

Thereas, through their love of family and ancestral traditions, Hispanic and Latino individuals build foundations of strength and unity within our communities and, during this monthlong observance, New Yorkers of all backgrounds welcome the opportunity to learn about their cultural heritage; we join in this celebration of ancestral pride and extend gratitude to our Hispanic and Latino communities for their contributions to our state and nation;

Dow, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, hereby proclaim September 15 - October 15, 2023 as

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

in the Empire State.

at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twelfth day of September in the year two thousand twenty-three.

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Secretary to the Governor Karen Persichilli Keogh