

CITY OF YAKIMA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, President Lyndon B. Johnson established "Hispanic Heritage Week" in 1968; and

WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan expanded the celebration in 1988 to cover a month-long period from September 15th through October 15th and declared it to be "National Hispanic Heritage Month"; and

WHEREAS, during "National Hispanic Heritage Month" the contributions made to and the important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans in the United States and their heritage and culture are honored; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans have had a profound and positive influence on our country, including the Yakima Valley; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a long and storied history of welcoming immigrants, which has given it a significant advantage over the rest of the world; and

WHEREAS, 55 million Americans, or about 17% of the country's total population, and about 48% of Yakima County's total population, are of Hispanic or Latino origin,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathy Coffey, Mayor of the City of Yakima, and on behalf of the Yakima City Council, do hereby proclaim September 15th through October 15th as

Hispanic Heritage Month

in the City of Yakima, and urge everyone to learn about, acknowledge, and applaud the generations of Hispanic and Latino Americans who have enriched our community and those that will continue to build a bright and hopeful future for themselves, their families, and all of us who call the Yakima Valley home.

Dated this 20th day of September 2016

Kathy Coffey, Mayor