

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING)	RESOLUTION NO. 23-5354
SEPTEMBER 15 TO OCTOBER 15 AS HISPANIC)	
HERITAGE MONTH IN THE PORTLAND)	Introduced by Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal in
METRO REGION)	concurrence with Council President Lynn
)	Peterson

WHEREAS, the United States observes Hispanic Heritage Month each year to celebrate the culture, heritage, and invaluable contributions of Latine and Hispanic people, a diverse population in our region whose ancestors came from Mexico, Central and South America, Spain and the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, it is also critical to understand that Latine and Hispanic people have strong connections to Indigenous, African, and Asian identities; and

WHEREAS, September 15 marks the anniversary of independence for the Latin American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua; additionally, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Metro region has a substantial and rapidly growing Latine and Hispanic population of 13.4 percent (2020 U.S. Census) with great economic, political, and social influence; and

WHEREAS, the Latine and Hispanic communities create jobs and drive innovation across all sectors contributing to the shared prosperity of our region; Latine and Hispanic people play vital roles in building regional livability and stability; and

WHEREAS, understanding and amplifying the lived experiences of these communities is fundamental to the creation of equitable social, economic and governance systems. Opportunities to ensure the success of the Latine and Hispanic families, businesses, and communities in every corner of the Portland Metro region should be prioritized; and

WHEREAS, the Latinos in Government Alliance (LIGA) works to foster safer and healthier communities for Latine and Hispanic people and Metro commits to supporting these efforts. Together, LIGA and Metro encourage regional collaboration; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council, on this 14th day of September 2023, does hereby proclaim September 15 to October 15 in 2023, and all future years, as Hispanic Heritage Month and encourages the region to celebrate the rich histories and tremendous contributions of these communities.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 14th day of September, 2023.

Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney