

By: Huffman, et al.

S.R. No. 526

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, May 2023 has been set aside as Asian American and  
2 Pacific Islander Heritage Month to recognize the accomplishments  
3 and wide-ranging contributions of individuals who trace their  
4 ancestry to Asia and the Pacific Islands; and

5           WHEREAS, Originally established by the United States  
6 Congress as Asian-Pacific American Heritage Week, the observance  
7 celebrates the diverse culture, traditions, and history of people  
8 from the Asian continent and the islands of Melanesia, Micronesia,  
9 and Polynesia in the Pacific; it was officially expanded into a  
10 monthlong celebration in 1992; and

11           WHEREAS, The month of May was chosen for this commemorative  
12 period because of two key events in our nation's history; on  
13 May 7, 1843, the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the U.S., and  
14 on May 10, 1869, a workforce largely composed of Chinese laborers  
15 completed the Transcontinental Railroad; and

16           WHEREAS, According to a 2022 U.S. Census Bureau estimate,  
17 around 6.2 percent of Americans identify as Asian, Native Hawaiian,  
18 or Pacific Islander, with approximately 24 million Americans  
19 claiming Asian ancestry and nearly 1.6 million tracing their  
20 origins to Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands; and

21           WHEREAS, The Lone Star State is home to generations of  
22 Americans who take great pride in their family roots in Asia and the  
23 Pacific Islands, and this annual observance provides a welcome  
24 opportunity to celebrate their significant contributions to the

1 prosperity and cultural vibrancy of our nation; now, therefore, be  
2 it

3           RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature  
4 hereby recognize May 2023 as Asian American and Pacific Islander  
5 Heritage Month.