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By:  Lalani H.R. No. 517

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Members of the Asian American Pacific Islander community are gathering in Austin on March 9, 2023, for the inaugural Desi Day of Action at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, The umbrella term "AAPI" refers to Pacific Islander, Southeast Asian, South Asian, West Asian, Central Asian, and East Asian cultures, and it encompasses some 50 different ethnicities and over 300 languages and dialects; and

WHEREAS, In Texas, the AAPI population numbers over 1.9 million, having grown by 186 percent since 2000; Harris, Dallas, and Fort Bend Counties have the highest number of AAPI residents; the top five Asian languages spoken in the state are Vietnamese, Chinese, Tagalog, Hindi, and Urdu, and among the many others are Samoan, Chamorro, Tongan, Hawaiian, Chuukese, and Marshallese; and

WHEREAS, Desi Day of Action provides an opportunity for AAPI Texans to raise awareness of the issues important to them, while also building community among members of the many organizations involved with the event; these include the South Asian American Voter Empowerment of Texas Education Fund, Asian Texans for Justice, Indian American Impact Project, OCA-Greater Houston, Woori Juntos, and the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association; and

WHEREAS, Members of the AAPI community contribute to the vibrancy and prosperity of the Lone Star State in myriad ways, and the participants in this advocacy day are demonstrating their commitment to making an even greater positive impact through active civic engagement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas Legislature hereby recognize March 9, 2023, as Desi Day of Action at the State Capitol.