

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

4   ENGROSSED SENATE  
5   CONCURRENT  
6   RESOLUTION NO. 27

By: Floyd of the Senate

and

Pae of the House

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9           A Concurrent Resolution recognizing May as  
10          Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month; recognizing  
11          the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in  
12          Oklahoma; and celebrating the contributions of Asian  
13          Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of  
14          Oklahoma and the United States.

15           WHEREAS, May is recognized by the United States Congress as  
16          Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, honoring the contributions  
17          and paying tribute to generations of Asian Americans and Pacific  
18          Islanders (AAPI) who have made our state and nation their home; and

19           WHEREAS, Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month is celebrated in  
20          May to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the  
21          United States in May of 1843; and

22           WHEREAS, May also marks the anniversary of the completion of the  
23          transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of those  
24          who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants; and

1       WHEREAS, the Chinese were the first Asian group to settle in  
2 Oklahoma, living in the Guthrie Territory after the Land Run of  
3 1889; and

4       WHEREAS, the Japanese population quickly grew in Oklahoma in the  
5 1920s and '40s, and during World War II, several fought for the  
6 United States including four sons of Kutaro Nishimuta, a farmer in  
7 Payne County. His sons served in the U.S. Army 442nd Regimental  
8 Unit, an all-Japanese outfit and one of the most decorated units in  
9 the war; and

10       WHEREAS, nearly three percent of all Oklahomans identify as  
11 Asian American or Pacific Islander, citing origins in Cambodia,  
12 China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine  
13 Islands, Thailand, Vietnam, Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific  
14 Islands; and

15       WHEREAS, Oklahoma City is home to "Little Saigon", the Asian  
16 District made up of the state's largest population of Asian  
17 descendants, predominately Vietnamese. Visitors flock to the  
18 district each year to experience the international cuisine, culture,  
19 and shopping; and

20       WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander citizens have made  
21 a tremendous impact on our state and nation, serving in vital roles  
22 as state and national leaders, starting businesses, making  
23 breakthroughs in science and technology, serving in our military,  
24 excelling in sports, arts, education, and more.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION  
2 OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
3 CONCURRING THEREIN:

4 THAT the month of May is recognized by the Oklahoma State  
5 Legislature as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

6 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the contributions  
7 of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of Oklahoma  
8 and the United States.

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10 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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