STATE OF OREGON

PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS: Asians and Pacific Islanders have lived and worked in Oregon for more than 200 years, contributing to the state's rich history, economy, and culture; and

WHEREAS: Asian and Pacific Islander history in Oregon is marked by a struggle for freedom, equity and justice, prevailing over the adversity of exclusion, persecution, incarceration, and disparities. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have helped advance Oregon's prosperity through their contributions to all fields of education, business, the arts, economic development, science, and technology; and

WHEREAS: Asian and Pacific Islander communities and the Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs are working to achieve full participation in the social, economic, and political decisions that affect their families, building stronger alliances across all communities in Oregon; and

WHEREAS: During this unprecedented global pandemic in modern history, in which hate and bias incidents against Asian and Pacific Islanders have sharply increased, all Oregonians must stand together to denounce any form of xenophobia, discrimination, harmful rhetoric, and stigma against Asian and Pacific Islander communities, and keep Asians and Pacific Islanders safe and protected; and

WHEREAS: The vibrant history and diverse cultures of Oregon's Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are here to be honored and respected as a central part of our state's story and shared with all Oregonians. The month of May is nationally recognized as a time to celebrate contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to our society and collective history.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **May 2021** to be

ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, April 5, 2021.

Kate Brown

Kate Brown, Governor

Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State