

WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCLAMATION

Recognizing the month of September as National Hispanic Heritage Month

WHEREAS, The significance of celebrating Hispanic Heritage in September is because 7 Latin American countries celebrate their Independence Day in this month. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua all celebrate independence on September 15th. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September18, respectively. By aligning with these independence days, Hispanic Heritage Month honors the resilience and determination of the Hispanic community.

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to recognize and celebrate the rich histories, cultures, and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans have significantly shaped Wake County through their dedication, leadership, and diverse cultural traditions; and

WHEREAS, The 2023 ACS (American Community Survey) 1yr detailed estimate released by the US Census estimates 137,414 Hispanic or Latino approximately 11.5% of the population (1,190,275) in Wake County; and

WHEREAS, From the early settlers who established enduring communities to the presentday leaders in business, education, government, and the arts, Hispanic and Latino Americans have played pivotal roles in shaping our county's vibrant tapestry; and

WHEREAS, Their contributions in science, technology, healthcare, human services, and every sector of our economy have strengthened our community and enriched our lives; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans continue to contribute to the prosperity and cultural vitality of Wake County, enhancing our understanding and appreciation of their heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Wake County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes and celebrates **HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**. We honor the historic and present contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans, and we commit to fostering an inclusive community where diversity is celebrated and all residents can thrive.

ADOPTED this the 2nd day of September 2025.

Susan P. Evans, Chair Wake County Board of Commissioners