



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PROCLAMATION
Recognizing National Hispanic
Heritage Month 2021
Proclamación para el Mes Nacional
de la Herencia Hispana 2021**

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month, known as “Mes de Herencia Hispana”, is celebrated nationwide from September 15th through October 15th each year. Americans observe this month by celebrating the histories, cultures, food, music, and traditions of 26 Latin American nations; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that all nations are not monogamous, this month celebrates, honors and pays tribute to the generations of Hispanic and Latina, Latino, Latinx and Latine Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our country and society. The celebration starts in the middle of the month, because the 15th marks the independence days of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua; and Mexico, Chile, and Belize follow shortly after, on the 16th, 18th and 21st, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latin-Americans amount to an estimated 17.8% of the United States, and 10.4% of the North Carolina total population. Recognizing that Wake County is composed of approximately 116,000 Hispanic and Latin Americans, our county has become more diverse due to a boom in the community’s population in the past three decades; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic-owned businesses in Wake County are increasing yearly. One 2012 estimate cites \$4.8 billion in sales, and the 2020 NC Census states up to 30,266 Hispanic and Latin American employers since 2019; and

WHEREAS, Wake County recognizes the significant contributions of all Hispanic, Latino/a/x/e Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and outreach groups that help increase cultural awareness, enrichment, and community engagement to our residents. It is through their support and community involvement that our county has continued to flourish both culturally and economically; and

WHEREAS, the County of Wake strives to make our community a place where all people - regardless of their race, ethnicity, language, and geography - are treated equally.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Wake County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim September 15th - October 15th as National Hispanic Heritage Month and commend its observance to all residents.

ADOPTED this the 4th day of October 2021.

Matthew M. Calabria, Chair
Wake County Board of Commissioners