

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-R-141

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of North Miami Mayor and City Council is honored to join citizens throughout the country in recognizing September 15, 2023, as the start of National Hispanic Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, the observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15; and

WHEREAS, every year since 1988 from September 15 to October 15, our country has celebrated Hispanic culture and contributions to our community and nation by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America; and

WHEREAS, we begin the observance on September 15 because it is the anniversary of independence or Independence Day for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latinx Americans have significantly impacted education, medicine, and public service. Pioneers such as Roberto Alvarez, whose groundbreaking case *Roberto Alvarez v Lemon Grove School District* (CA, 1931) was the first successful school desegregation case in American history; Joseph Marion Hernandez and Octavian Larrazolo, the first Latinx Americans to serve in the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate and Carlos Juan Finlay, a Cuban immigrant who solved the Yellow Fever Mystery; and

WHEREAS, throughout the year, we honor the contributions of Hispanic and Latinx Americans in our history as well as celebrate the contributions of Hispanic and Latinx Americans who serve our communities; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics represent a vibrant and thriving part of our diverse community. Their histories and cultures stretch across centuries, and the contributions of those who come to our community continue to add new chapters to our City's history; and

WHEREAS, while many Hispanic Americans today are thriving, others are still struggling to overcome obstacles, including language and cultural barriers, as well as discrimination; and

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to renew its commitment to ensuring that all Hispanic Americans have the opportunities they need to realize their dreams of a better life; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami desires that Hispanic American Heritage Month be used to reflect on the rich culture, history, and contributions of Latinx and Hispanic peoples to the enrichment of the American experience.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Designation. That September 15, 2023, through October 15, 2023, is hereby declared as Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of North Miami, Florida.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a 5 - 0 vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this 12th day of September, 2023.



ALIX DESUIME, ED.D.
MAYOR

ATTEST:



VANESSA JOSEPH, ESQ.
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



JEFF P.H. CAZEAU, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILWOMAN KASSANDRA TIMOTHE

Moved by: Charles

Seconded by: Galvin

Vote:

Mayor Alix Desulme, Ed.D.	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Vice-Mayor Mary Estimé-Irvin	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilman Scott Galvin	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilwoman Kassandra Timothe, MPA	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)
Councilman Pierre Frantz Charles, M.Ed.	<u>X</u> (Yes) _____ (No)