



Resolution

Recognizing Italian American Heritage Day

WHEREAS, in the centuries since Italian Explorers from Italy first set sail across the Atlantic Ocean millions of Americans of Italian descent have set forth from their native Italy to come to America. America was named after the Italian explorer Amerigo Vespucci. Italian Americans were the largest immigrant group to come to the United States through Ellis Island and one of the largest immigrant groups to settle in California; and

WHEREAS, generations of Italian Americans have helped shape the cultural and economic landscape of California and have played a prominent role in the creation of many of the State's basic industries including the wine, railroad, mining, farming, lumber, fishing, agricultural, food processing and banking industries. Italian Americans were among the earliest pioneers of Sacramento and contributed greatly to the development of the city and the region. The enterprise and success of these Italian pioneers is a unique legacy and one shared by all of us; and

WHEREAS, Italian Americans settled in many parts of Sacramento. The largest concentration settled in East Sacramento where they established their own historic "Little Italy" neighborhood. To this day many Italian Americans live and operate businesses in the area. The Italian community of Sacramento continues to be active and vibrant with Italian organizations and a Cultural Center serving the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of the Italian Americans to the development of Northern California are often unrecognized and left out of the history of the region. The story of the Italian American experience needs to be told and celebrated and included in the educational experience of the regions school children.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Council recognizes the Second Monday of October each year as Italian American Day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Sacramento observe this day and encourages the celebration of Italian American Day in the Italian American community and encourages the study of the Italian American experience in the City's public schools on Italian American Day.

ISSUED: This 21st Day of August 2018

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DARRELL STEINBERG, MAYOR

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