



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Proclamation

**A PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHING MAY 2025 AS ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER
HERITAGE MONTH**

WHEREAS, the United States recognizes May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, celebrating the extraordinary contributions, rich cultural heritage, and diverse traditions of Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders represent more than 30 countries and ethnic groups, speaking over 100 languages, and have strengthened our nation through their achievements in arts, sciences, business, medicine, education, government, and military service; and

WHEREAS, President Jimmy Carter chose May because it commemorates the immigration of the first Japanese citizen, Nakahama Manjiro, to the United States on May 7, 1843, and is also the anniversary of the May 10, 1869, completion of the first Transcontinental Railroad, built with the back-breaking labor of nearly 20,000 Chinese immigrants; and

WHEREAS, in celebrating the AAPI communities, we must also recognize the discrimination, exclusion, and outright violence they continue to face to this day. Throughout our history, AAPIs have been the target of senseless violence, disenfranchisement, efforts to restrict immigration, and other xenophobic policies at the federal, state, and local level; and

WHEREAS, we honor the courage and resilience of AAPI communities who have overcome this prejudice and adversity throughout our history; and

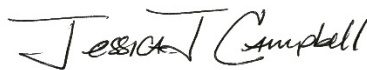
WHEREAS, in a time when many are trying to erase the more troublesome aspects of the American story and, by disregarding or ignoring transgressions of our past, we are at risk of repeating them; and

WHEREAS, 20 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders live in the United States and continue to enrich our national fabric through their vibrant cultural traditions, entrepreneurial spirit, innovative leadership, and dedication to public service.

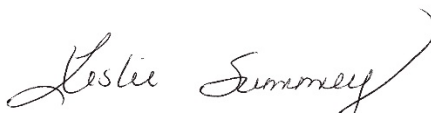
NOW, THEREFORE, the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 2025 as **ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH** and call upon all residents to celebrate the immeasurable contributions of AAPI communities, to learn about their histories, and to commit to the principles of inclusion, understanding, and respect for all people.



Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully



Commissioner Jessica Campbell



Commissioner Leslie Summey
Chair of the Board



Commissioner Jeff Baker
Chair Pro Tem



Commissioner Rhonda Fields