

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 85

Reps. Brixie, Coleman, Haadsma, Kuppa, Elder, Kennedy, Brenda Carter, Wittenberg, Hoadley, Witwer, Garza, LaGrand, Shannon, Garrett, Guerra, Camilleri, Stone, Koleszar, Pohutsky, Cherry, Gay-Dagnogo, Hertel and Warren offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to declare May 2019 as Asian Pacific American  
2 Heritage Month in the state of Michigan.

3       Whereas, The state of Michigan is fortunate to be home to more  
4 than 300,000 residents of Asian and Pacific Island descent; and

5       Whereas, Asian Pacific Americans comprise one of the fastest  
6 growing populations in both the state and the nation. In fact, the  
7 largest growing population in Michigan, according to the 2010 U.S.  
8 Census; and

9       Whereas, The Asian and Pacific Island regions are tremendously  
10 diverse, with more than thirty countries, sixteen major ethnic



1 groups, nine languages, and numerous belief systems bringing their  
2 culture to Michigan; and

3       Whereas, Citizens of Asian and Pacific Island descent, in each  
4 generation, from the laborers who connected our coasts one-and-a-  
5 half centuries ago, to the patriots who fought overseas while their  
6 families were interned at home, these patriotic Americans have  
7 enhanced our culture, quality of life, and economic vitality  
8 through leadership, commitments to knowledge and advancement, and  
9 dedication to their communities; and

10       Whereas, The state of Michigan and the United States of  
11 America have been enriched by the contributions of Asian Pacific  
12 Americans in all facets of life, including the arts, sciences,  
13 business, education, and philanthropy. Michigan has recognized the  
14 contribution Asian Pacific Americans and other immigrants make to  
15 our economy with the establishment of the Michigan Office for New  
16 Americans; and

17       Whereas, The culture and contributions of our Asian and  
18 Pacific Island residents will continue to grow in significance as  
19 more Asian Pacific Americans choose to make Michigan their home and  
20 as our economy becomes increasingly intertwined with the economies  
21 throughout Asia; and

22       Whereas, Asian Pacific Americans, through advocating issues of  
23 justice and equality, continue to break down the barriers of  
24 discrimination, indifference, and intolerance, thereby opening  
25 doors for all Asian Pacific Americans; and

26       Whereas, Asian Pacific American residents are proudly served  
27 in Michigan by many dedicated organizations, including the Michigan  
28 Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, the Asian Pacific  
29 American Chamber of Commerce, the Council of Asian Pacific

1 Americans, Asian American Citizens for Justice, Asian Center  
2 Southeast Michigan and the West Michigan Asian Pacific American  
3 Association, APIA Vote - Michigan and the Michigan Asian Pacific  
4 American Bar Association; and

5       Whereas, The state of Michigan takes pride in its cultural  
6 diversity and welcomes the opportunity to honor our Asian Pacific  
7 American residents for their lasting, expanding, imprint upon our  
8 state; now, therefore, be it

9       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
10 this legislative body declare May 2019 as Asian Pacific American  
11 Heritage Month in the state of Michigan. We encourage all citizens  
12 to celebrate the individual and collective contributions of Asian  
13 Pacific Americans to this state and to this country.