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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF FRESNO STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. 23-023

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING

JANUARY 24, 2023 AS LEE HERRICK DAY)

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2022, Lee Herrick was appointed California Poet Laureate by Governor Gavin Newsom, and as such will serve the state in a two-year term to spread the art of poetry across the state, to inspire an emerging generation of literary artists, and to educate all Californians about the many poets and authors who have influenced California creative literary expression; and

WHEREAS, Lee Herrick served as Poet Laureate of the City of Fresno from 2015 to 2017, where he led local efforts to bridge communities and engage young people in expressing themselves through writing, cofounding LitHop, Fresno's annual literary festival, and Idea Farm, a writing workshop for Fresno teens, with a focus on social justice; and

WHEREAS, Lee Herrick is a Fresno writer and professor who teaches at Fresno City College and in the MFA Program at the University of Nevada, Reno, at Lake Tahoe, and is the author of three books of poetry – Scar and Flower, Gardening Secrets of the Dead, and This Many Miles from Desire – and is co-author of The World I Leave You: Asian American Poets of Faith and Spirit and a contributor to several anthologies; and

WHEREAS, Lee Herrick, born in Daejeon, South Korea and adopted at 10 months old, was raised in California, and celebrates, through poetry, its diversity and vitality. He is the first Asian American Poet Laureate and will use his platform called Our California to bring together poetry with a social justice or civic engagement organization in each city that he visits during his term as Poet Laureate.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims January 24th, 2023, as Lee Herrick, 10th California Poet Laureate Day, in the County of Fresno.

THE FOREGOING, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 24th day of January 2023 to-wit:

AYES:

Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero

NOES:

None

ABSENT: None ABSTAINED: None

Saf Quintero, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno

ATTEST:

BERNICE E. SEIDEL

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Fresno. State of California

By Haname

Deputy