

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
COUNTY OF FRESNO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-157**

**IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNIZING JUNE 2023 AS )  
PORTUGUESE HERITAGE MONTH IN FRESNO COUNTY)**

**WHEREAS**, the first Portuguese settlers came to California from the Azores Islands, in the North Atlantic Ocean, early in the 19th century, and today approximately 350,000 Portuguese Americans live in California, most of whom immigrated from the Azores, and over 1.5 million Portuguese Americans nationwide, making the United States of America the proud home to one of the largest Portuguese diasporas in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, since the 1860s, the Portuguese community has made indelible contributions in the Central Valley, such as in agriculture, particularly the dairy industry, technology, the arts, entrepreneurship, integration, and their commitment to the American dream; and

**WHEREAS**, the embodiment of Portuguese National Heritage Month in Fresno County celebrates a unique community rooted in perseverance, pride, and deep familial ties, along with values of commitment to tradition, hard work, and building bridges with other communities and the Azores, such as the establishment of the California Portuguese-American Coalition; and

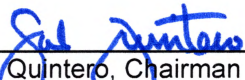
**WHEREAS**, the Portuguese Holy Spirit FESTAS and other cultural festivals have become an integral part of the communities in which they are held, drawing in individuals of many other ethnicities that compose our country to celebrate Portuguese traditions, as they strive to keep individual traditions, language, and culture alive; and

**WHEREAS**, in March of 2018, Californians of Portuguese ancestry created the only strategic plan in the United States to teach the Portuguese language and culture in California public and private schools, colleges, and universities in order to contribute to the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of the State and foster a continued connection between California and Portuguese-speaking countries throughout the world. California State University, Fresno has a multidisciplinary Portuguese Beyond Borders Institute with an oral history project, a publication press, a complete language program and a lecture and conference series.

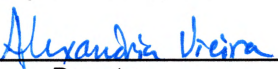
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors do hereby recognize the month of June 2023 as Portuguese National Heritage Month in Fresno County.

**THE FOREGOING**, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2023, to-wit:

AYES:	Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAINED:	None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sal 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   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy