



# City of Iowa City PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month was first proposed as a commemorative week by Rep. Frank Horton of New York, and signed into law by President Jimmy Carter, with the week's first recognition being in 1979, but was amended to its present form of an annual celebratory month in 1992; and

**Whereas**, the term "Asian Pacific" is very broad and includes many peoples and cultures, from the entire Asian continent to the Pacific Island groups of Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia, and thus encompasses diverse populations within one group designation; and

**Whereas**, the contributions Americans of Asian and Pacific Island heritage have made to this society are too many and varied to list comprehensively, and

**Whereas**, the API community is the fastest growing racial group in America and today is an important moment to recognize not only our longtime communities but also our newcomers. Asian Pacific Americans have made contributions ranging from building connections to the rest of the US with the Transcontinental Railroad, to service with valor in our armed forces, to the fields of agriculture, business, education, health, and technology; and

**Whereas**, the API community has been marked by a struggle for freedom, equality, and justice, prevailing over the adversity of exclusion, persecution, incarceration, and disparities; and

**Whereas**, May 18 is the birthday of Vincent Chin, who was brutally murdered in a hate crime in 1982. His murder fueled a national Asian American activist movement that continues to this day; and

**Whereas**, we have seen a staggering rise in bullying, discrimination, and hate crimes against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (API) community during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**Whereas**, in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and Vincent Chin birthday, May 18 shall be an API Day Against Bullying and Hate; and

**Whereas**, Act to Change is a national nonprofit dedicated to fighting bullying in the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. To find resources, visit [ActToChange.org](http://ActToChange.org); and


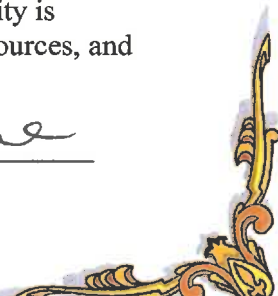

**Now, therefore**, I, Bruce Teague, Mayor of Iowa City, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 to be

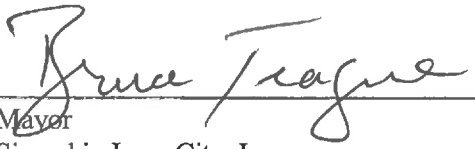
## **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month**

And do hereby proclaim Tuesday, May 18, 2021 to be

## **Asian American and Pacific Islander Day Against Bullying**

in Iowa City and urge all community members to join Act to Change. The City of Iowa City is committed to this important issue and encourages the public to foster dialogue, share resources, and learn more about what they can do to fightbullying.



  
Mayor  
Signed in Iowa City, Iowa,  
the 4th day of May 2021.