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Joint Board Matter with Chairman McKay

Request to Designate June 2023 as Immigrant Heritage Month

Members of the Board,

Immigrant Heritage Month is a special time to honor and celebrate the courage, culture, and countless contributions of immigrants who have lived and continue to live in our community. Generations of immigrants from different parts of the world have helped shape Fairfax County's history and continue to define our future. In line with the One Fairfax Policy, we welcome all who wish to live in, work in, and enjoy our community, including those of us who immigrated for other countries to choose to make Fairfax our home.

Fairfax County's diversity makes our community strong and vibrant, and our immigrant population is no exception. Representing the full diversity of Fairfax's race, color, nationality, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, and income, our immigrant community is truly representative of the richness of our cultures and experiences. In 2020, 29.4% of Fairfax's total population were immigrants, and 71.6% of immigrants aged 16 and over were in the labor force. Our community is rich in many different cultures with 38.7% of our residents, age 5 and over, speaking a language other than English at home. We embrace and celebrate one another's differences and cultural backgrounds. While we must continue to work

every day to ensure that all residents deserve an equitable opportunity to succeed, Fairfax County continues to value and celebrate our county as a place where all are welcome and have opportunities to succeed and give back to our community.

Therefore, I move without objection that the Board designate June 2023 as Immigrant Heritage Month in Fairfax County, and that the Office of Public Affairs prepare a proclamation to be presented in the Board room at a future meeting.