

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## PROCLAMATION

### DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2024 AS NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, Lake County has been home to people for greater than 12,000 years, and the richly diverse cultures of the seven Tribal Nations indigenous to Lake County, Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California, Koi Nation of Northern California, Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California and Elem Indian Colony, have informed every aspect of our community's history. Policies and practices of the United States and earlier colonial governments deprived Indigenous People in the State of California and Lake County, specifically, of landholdings, liberty, even life, itself; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans have helped to make our community stronger and more prosperous. On August 3, 1990, President of the United States George H. W. Bush declared the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month, thereafter, commonly referred to as Native American Heritage Month. The bill read in part that "the President has authorized and requested to call upon Federal, State and local Governments, groups and organizations and the people of the United States to observe such month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities"; and

**WHEREAS**, this landmark bill honoring America's tribal people represented a major step in the establishment of this celebration which began in 1976 when a Cherokee/Osage Indian named Jerry C. Elliott-High Eagle authored Native American Awareness Week legislation, the first historical week of recognition in the nation for native peoples. This led to 1986 with then President Ronald Reagan proclaiming November 23-30, 1986, as "American Indian Week." President Barack Obama made an annual Presidential Proclamation on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October stating that each respective November would be National Native American Heritage Month. We celebrate the richness of the County's unique Tribal history and traditions, and the impact Native American cultures have had on every American; and

**WHEREAS**, Lake County is committed to protecting the Sovereign right of Native American Tribal organizations and institutions to strengthen their own communities. In observance of Native American month, the County of Lake encourages all citizens to join in recognizing the accomplishments and contributions Native Americans have made to our County, and salutes those who have sought to honor the important role of Tribal leadership in our County's past, present, and future.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED**, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Lake, do hereby designate the month of November 2024, National Native American Heritage Month in Lake County, California.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024.

ATTEST: SUSAN PARKER  
Clerk to the Board

COUNTY OF LAKE

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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Chair, Board of Supervisors