



State of Wisconsin  
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2992/1  
JKS:cjs

## 2021 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 29

May 5, 2021 - Introduced by Senators KOOYENGA, AGARD, BERNIER, BEWLEY, CARPENTER, COWLES, DARLING, JOHNSON, LARSON, PETROWSKI, PFAFF, RINGHAND, ROYS, SMITH, L. TAYLOR and WIRCH, cosponsored by Representatives SPIROS, ANDERSON, ANDRACA, BALDEH, BOWEN, CABRAL-GUEVARA, CABRERA, CONLEY, CONSIDINE, DRAKE, EMERSON, HEBL, HESSELBEIN, HONG, KITCHENS, MACCO, B. MEYERS, MILROY, MURPHY, NEUBAUER, OHNSTAD, POPE, S. RODRIGUEZ, SHANKLAND, SHELTON, SINICKI, SNODGRASS, SNYDER, SPREITZER, STEFFEN, STUBBS, SUBECK, TITTL, VINING and VRUWINK. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

\*\*\*AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

1     **Relating to:** recognizing Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Heritage  
2             Month as a time to honor the important contributions of Asians, Asian  
3             Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Desi Americans to the history of the United  
4             States.

5             Whereas, the people of Wisconsin join together each May to pay tribute to the  
6             contributions of generations of APIDA who have enriched the history of the United  
7             States; and

8             Whereas, the history of APIDA in Wisconsin is inextricably tied to the story of  
9             Wisconsin; and

10            Whereas, there are approximately 22 million U.S. residents who identify as  
11            Asian and approximately 1.6 million U.S. residents who identify as Native Hawaiian  
12            or other Pacific Islander, comprising nearly 7 percent of the total population; and

13            Whereas, Wisconsin's APIDA population totaled 194,173 in 2020 and has  
14            increased 82 percent since the 2000 Census; and

1           Whereas, the APIDA community is an inherently diverse population, composed  
2 of more than 45 distinct ethnicities and more than 100 language dialects; and

3           Whereas, the immigration of Hmong refugees from Laos to Wisconsin from  
4 1975 through the 1990s enriched the state immeasurably as Wisconsin has the third  
5 largest Hmong population in the U.S.; and

6           Whereas, the month of May was selected for Asian/Pacific American Heritage  
7 Month because the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States on May  
8 7, 1843, and the first transcontinental railroad was completed on May 10, 1869, with  
9 substantial contributions from Chinese immigrants; and

10           Whereas, APIDA Heritage Month provides the people of Wisconsin with an  
11 opportunity to recognize and celebrate the achievements, contributions, and history  
12 of APIDA communities and understand the challenges they face; now, therefore, be  
13 it

14           ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the Wisconsin  
15 State Legislature recognizes APIDA Heritage Month as an important time to  
16 celebrate the significant contributions of Asians, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders,  
17 and Desi Americans to the history of Wisconsin, and recognizes that Asian, Asian  
18 American, Pacific Islander, and Desi American communities strengthen and  
19 enhance the rich diversity of Wisconsin.

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(END)