



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ADRIENNE HERNAEZ		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: adriennehernaez@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:19 PM
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I feel that this is important to further recognize and appreciate the AAPI community in Missouri. There is a rich history that these communities have brought to the states and Missouri itself and it's about time there was more recognition for their stories and presence.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALISON DUNLEAVY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: alison.page.dunleavy@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:34 PM
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Having an AAPI month is important and is a good way to honor and recognize all AAPI individuals.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANDREA PULS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: andii.puls@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 9:37 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: ANDREW DE LAS ALAS		PHONE NUMBER: 317-294-0100
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI ASIAN AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 222 S. MERAMEC AVE.		
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63105
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANGELA FISHER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: fishervangela@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 7:44 AM

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Having May officially be considered AAPI month means that we will get more focus on our achievements and cultures. It gives an excuse to be able to share cultures, and it doesn't affect you if you don't care about it.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNA SUDO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: anna.c.sudo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 4:51 PM
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Asian Americans continue to be vital members of our Missouri communities and deserve to be honored as such.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNALEE DORSEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: annaleedorseysm@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 12:10 PM
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The recognition of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is very important for many reasons. I'll keep it short and sweet, there is a HUGE Asian community within the state of Missouri. We need to show the people that don't realize or pay attention that there is community and culture that is easily shared and celebrated between Asians and non Asians. Discovering and appreciating another culture is one of the more than beautiful and life changing experiences I have had. I have also had the pleasure of working at the gorgeous Vietnamese coffee shop in KC, Cafe Ca Phe. If you know who we are, you know we create space for everyone who feels like they don't belong, and that's where the state of Missouri needs to continue to bloom. Create space for everyone. Every human being in this world matters. Everyone deserves to feel safe. Everyone deserves to be celebrated. Asian lives matter. Black Lives Matter. Let's continue to move forward instead of backwards and pass this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNEMARIE BRAMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: adeblasi@eastern.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:04 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANNIE WATSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: anniewatsonkc@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 1:16 PM	
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My name is Annie Watson, and I am testifying in support of HB 1051 Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. I have lived in Kansas City for twenty years now and, alongside my husband, have decided to stay and raise our four children here. While some families consider school districts, HOA regulations, proximity to work, or neighborhood amenities, for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) families, there is another layer. Where will my children see others who look like them? In a state where only 2% of the total population identifies as Asian, this is a tough question to answer. The reality is my children are not likely to be in classrooms with many other Asian children to see themselves in their teachers, doctors, or coaches. This means my children often feel invisible. I often question our state's desire to truly care for our children and act accordingly. A bill like HB 1051 doesn't change the challenging realities that AAPI families face, discrimination, acts of violence, stereotypes, and assumptions. But it opens the door to continued conversations about the fabric of Missouri and how we can continue strengthening our communities across lines of difference. It is an opportunity for state leaders, who often disagree, to stand behind the message that my family matters. And hopefully, AAPI children like mine feel a little less invisible. I encourage you to support HB 1051 today. In gratitude,



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 11:59 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY SANTOS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ashiannasantos@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:53 PM
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I am in support of making the month of May the official AAPI month.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ATSUKI EMMA MORI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Atsuki.e.mori@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 11:37 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Dear Mr. Chairman Seitz and members of the Special Committee on Tourism, My name is Atsuki Mori, and I live in Warrensburg, Missouri. I came to the United States from Japan in 2001 with three young children, and became a citizen in 2015. I have a medical degree from a Japanese university and am currently working as a registered nurse at a community hospital in Warrensburg. Today, I would like to share my thoughts on what the designation of Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month means and why it is important for Missouri. Warrensburg is a small college town in Johnson County. Its population was 16,340 in 2000. The Asian population is 2.8%, and the native Hawaiian & Pacific islander population was 0.1%. This population composition has not changed drastically. The population of Warrensburg was 23,313 in 2020, the Asian population was 2.7%, and the native Hawaiian & Pacific islander population was 0%. These data indicate that the population composition has not changed drastically. Simply put, there were not many Asians. For many residents of Warrensburg, we were the first Asians with who they had interacted. I knew I would face stereotyping when I decided to move to this country. Needless to say, I had unpleasant experiences because of how I talked and looked. In most cases, it was a nuisance level, but sometimes it was horrible enough to make me cry. Sadly, I learned to let my feelings go. But it broke my heart when my children faced stereotyping. They told me that being the target of constant microaggression was terrible enough to make them depressed. There were several occasions when my children rejected Japanese culture. When my oldest daughter was in the first grade, she refused to bring lunch from home because her classmates made fun of her food. My 12-year-old youngest son has a Japanese name. When he was in the 2nd grade, he came home and told me he hated Japan and his name. It shocked me because he had never been to Japan. It turned out that his classmates made fun of his name because it was unique to them. Witnessing my children rejecting their culture and identity was one of the awful experiences. Living in the United States also brought me great joy. I met many people who accepted me for who I was. They saw me as an individual, not an Asian. They accepted me as their friend. As we got to know each other more, they also started to accept my culture and show interest in it. Also, living away from Japan allowed us to appreciate Japanese culture more. API Heritage Month was initially designated as a 10-day celebration in May by Congress in 1978. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush and Congress extended the whole month of May as API Heritage Month. When I learned about API Heritage Month a few years ago, I felt that it gave me permission to be proud of my identity as a Japanese while living in the United States. It made me feel I was finally allowed and welcomed to belong to this nation even though I have lived here for almost 20 years. There are two reasons why I think the designation of API Heritage Month is important for Missouri. First, it will provide Missourians with opportunities to learn about our culture. I see the United States as a beautiful mosaic. So many cultures and traditions from all over the world come together and create one very diverse nation. And that diversity is what makes the United States great and robust. Unfortunately, some perceive diversity as unpleasant. Humans are afraid of the unknown

and constantly perform pattern recognition to find the answer to the unknown. These characteristics contributed to scientific advancements, but also cause unconscious bias. In other words, stereotyping of certain races or ethnicities is caused by a lack of information. Celebrating API Heritage Month will provide plenty of opportunities for Missourians to deepen their understanding of API cultures and reduce implicit biases towards the API community. Second, celebrating API Heritage Month statewide will promote the development of the healthy identity of API youth in Missouri. Knowing that our culture is officially recognized by the State will also increase feelings of belongingness and promote positive behaviors as responsible citizens in the entire API community in Missouri. In conclusion, I believe that the API Heritage Month designation benefits all Missourians. Please support House Bill 1051. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Atsuki Mori, MD, BSN, RN503 Swallow Street Warrensburg, MO, 64093 Mobile: 660-233-0842 Email: Atsuki.E.Mori@gmail.com



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BETY LE SHACKELFORD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: betyleshackelford@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/2/2023 7:50 PM	
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Growing up, AAPI Heritage Month was not something that was celebrated. Being Asian was not something that was celebrated. As a first-born Vietnamese American, whose family came to the United States as refugees, being Asian, speaking another language, and having my family speak another language outside of the home was something I was, regrettably, ashamed of. I was ashamed because I saw the way non-Asian people treated my family and others who looked like me--as if we were ignorant or less than because perhaps English was not our first language. As an adult, I understand that the root of my pride is something that needs to come from within, and I take responsibility in doing the work to find that in myself. However, as an impressional young person, I believe that having my heritage celebrated and legitimately acknowledged by leaders I respected would have made a tremendous difference in how I viewed myself then and today. I have an almost 2 year old daughter, and I smile thinking of how wonderful her young world is, knowing that our state legislature is considering making Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month official in the state of Missouri. I thank you for seeing this as an important topic to be heard, and passed. I do everything in my power to enrich her life with family traditions I once pushed away, and within my own community, have worked with other AAPI leaders to officially declare May as AAPI Heritage Month in the city of Kansas City. To be a part of making May officially AAPI Heritage Month in the state of Missouri is an honor, and one that I am proud of being able to participate in as an Asian American. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRIDGITTE DE OCAMPO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: brimadeliene@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 5:04 PM

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As a person who identifies as Filipino-American, I feel that to properly represent the communities that live in Missouri we need to recognize Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Many people who live in Missouri, especially in our "college towns" or in KC and STL identify as Asian and celebrate AAPI Heritage Month, and it should be recognized by our government.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BROOKE BOWLIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: brooke98morgan@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:52 PM

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Please instate May as Asian heritage month— it's an important act and recognition for this community in our state!!!



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CAROLINE FAN		PHONE NUMBER: 202-255-9906	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI ASIAN AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 222 S. MEREMAC AVE. STE 202			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63105
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CARSON FOURNIER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: carsonfournier@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 5:58 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CASEY KEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ckey89@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 11:07 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CASEY MISPAGEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: cmcm1883@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 6:20 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL ADELSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-442-3872	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 12 MILLSTONE CAMPUS DRIVE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63146
EMAIL: cadelstein@jcrctl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 11:25 AM	

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The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), guided by Jewish values, advocates, educates, collaborates, and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish community, 60,000 strong in St. Louis. We are committed to pursuing religious tolerance, civic discourse and social justice in St. Louis and beyond. The JCRC urges the adoption of HB 1051, a bill that would designate May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the State of Missouri. America is a nation of immigrants and our diversity makes us stronger. The first Jewish immigrants arrived in America in the 1650's, among them a group of Dutch-Brazilian Jews seeking refuge for the Spanish Inquisition. The doctrine of separation of church and state and religious freedom has allowed the Jewish community to thrive in the United States. Immigrants of Asian descent have made a significant contribution to the history of our country and continue to play an important role today. For example, of the over 1.3 million Vietnamese living in the United States today, roughly 70 percent arrived seeking asylum from the 1980s to 2000. During the 1990s, large numbers of Vietnamese who were in the "re-education camps" of the new communist government were granted asylum on humanitarian and political grounds. Tens of thousands of them were relocated to St. Louis. The contributions of the Vietnamese community cannot be understated. They were directly responsible for the revitalization of the South Grand neighborhood in St. Louis City into a thriving retail district. Missouri recognizes February as African American History Month, March as Women's History Month, and has recently adopted a requirement for Holocaust Education Week in public schools. The time is now to recognize the important contribution of Asian and Pacific Islanders to our State and to educate about their history and achievements. We urge you to vote yes in support of HB 1051.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTOPHER ALAN GORDON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cgordon@mohistory.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 12:03 PM
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Please accept this statement in support of designating May as AAPI Month in Missouri. Official designation and observation of this heritage month by the Missouri Legislation is an essential step toward recognizing the often overlooked contributions of AAPI communities to Missouri's history and development. As a historian of Missouri history, I can attest that Asian immigrant communities have influenced our state's economic growth since the late 19th century and helped further enrich Missouri's cultural heritage. The first Chinese immigrants arrived in Missouri in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and, despite facing tremendous roadblocks such as the Chinese Exclusion Act and open hostilities against them, settled Missouri cities and towns, large and small, to begin a new life in America. These individuals opened small businesses, such as stores, laundries, and restaurants, that contributed to the economic development of the larger communities in which they operated. Later, in the post-WWII and Vietnam eras, Korean, Vietnamese, Taiwanese, Indian, and other AAPI communities joined the earlier immigrant groups and established thriving communities that furthered the achievements of those who came before them. St. Louis and Kansas City are home to creative, modern buildings designed by Missouri Asian American architects, our universities have produced groundbreaking scientists and medical professionals, business leaders, artists and journalists from Missouri's AAPI communities, and our state's culinary heritage has been influenced by everything from the invention of cashew chicken to modern pan-Asian fusion. These contributions have brought national and international recognition to Missouri. Therefore, I ask all the committee members to support this bill observing May AAPI Month in Missouri and bring much-deserved recognition to these communities of Missouri citizens who have influenced our state and country for the better for generations. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DENNIS TRUONG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dtruongg@outlook.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 6:42 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DIANEY CHAVEZ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dianey_chavez1821@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:14 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DONNA JACOBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: montrealparis@msn.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 12:58 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ED SHEW		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tshew@msn.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 11:51 AM
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May is Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the United States of America. Let us confirm and support this celebration in Missouri. It's an opportunity to honor the deep histories and cultures within AAPI communities, and to celebrate the community's resilience, perseverance and joy. In addition May 10, 2023 is the 154th anniversary of the completion of the First Transcontinental Railroad joining the eastern United States to the west. Being a Chinese American, we should be grateful to have the chance to give a voice to those Chinese laborers on the Transcontinental Railroad who helped to shape the physical and social landscape of the American West. This is just one of the many stories to be told that honor our nation's diversity.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELENI KONSTAS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: eleni.konstas@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 4:42 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH A VAGO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: EAVAGO2018@YAHOO.COM	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 7:00 AM

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We as a state need to celebrate the diverse cultures and heritages that make up this great nation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH VAN UUM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: vanuum@umsl.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 10:02 PM
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I was delighted last year when Governor Parson declared May as a time to honor the Asian Pacific Islanders of Missouri. This bill will make such recognition an annual event. Recognizing the contributions and diversity of Asian Pacific Islanders is crucial in promoting cultural awareness and understanding in our society. In Missouri, Asian Pacific Islanders make up a significant portion of the population, and their rich history and traditions deserve to be celebrated. Designating May as Asian Pacific Islander Month in Missouri would be a positive step towards acknowledging and honoring the many contributions that Asian Pacific Islanders have made to the state and the nation. This observance would provide an opportunity for people of all backgrounds to learn more about the history, culture, and achievements of this vibrant and diverse community. In addition to celebrating the cultural heritage of Asian Pacific Islanders, Asian Pacific Islander Month would also help to raise awareness of the issues and challenges faced by this community. By shining a spotlight on these issues, we can work towards creating a more inclusive and equitable society for all. Overall, designating May as Asian Pacific Islander Month in Missouri would be a meaningful way to honor the contributions and cultural heritage of this important community. I encourage lawmakers and community leaders to support this effort and take action to promote greater understanding and appreciation of Asian Pacific Islander culture and history.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ERIN LILLIE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: hazelnut501@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 7:11 PM
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I support this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EVA VEGA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: vegaeva07@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:17 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GABRIELA DOMBROWSKI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gabdombrowski@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:27 PM

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Passing this bill would show Missouri's commitment to eradicating ghate and violence in all its forms. Our citizens should be dedicated and given the opportunity to be exposed to causes that embrace all Missourians.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HANNA RHODES-FLEMING		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: hanna.d.rhodes@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 8:41 AM
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My name is Hanna Rhodes-Fleming and I am a Korean transracial adoptee. For me, growing up in a white family, surrounded by an all-white environment made me feel ashamed of my Asian-ness my entire life. My knowledge of my own culture's heritage, traditions, and holidays were erased and replaced by those celebrated in America. It took me 37 years to fully understand why I never fit in no matter how much I tried. 37 years to tell myself I don't have to laugh at micro-aggressive retorts and jokes at my expense, all because I found a community of people who look like me and understood how it feels to walk around this country wearing this skin and having these eyes. I found my local Asian community because they became loud, public, and visible. They openly celebrate traditional Asian holidays like Lunar New Year and AAPI month. Through this, an entire world I'd been separated from, opened up and embraced me. It's been through this that I was finally able to find a place I belonged. It's important for Asian's to be not only recognized but celebrated for all the diversity and beauty they bring to your community. Do it for the that little Asian girl that sat in classrooms and work spaces feeling alone in her identity, do it so she can finally say, "May is my month, May is the month we celebrate people who look like me," so she can hold her head a little higher and know that even here in America she is valued. Please pass HB1051.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: HANNAH MOON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL (AACS)		TITLE:
ADDRESS: #1 MARK TWAIN CIRCLE		
CITY: CLAYTON		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63105
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HAO QUACH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: haodatquach@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:36 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: HARRISON MYLES HAYWARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: waywardhaywards@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:09 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: HAYDEN ANDREWS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: haydenandrews93@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:05 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: HENNA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mahenna_2000@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:30 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: HOANG-ANH L. TRAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: hoang-anh.tran@naaap.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 1:09 PM	
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Designating the month of May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Missouri is important for several reasons. First, such a declaration reinforces the diversity and cultural appeal of the state of Missouri for its citizens, leadership, and tourists as well as fellow U.S. citizens. Let Missouri be a leader in this regard. Second, creating and maintaining visibility of the state's commitment to diversity reinforces the economic appeal for external and internal businesses and organizations seeking to establish operations, relocate employees, host conferences and events, or otherwise do business in the state of Missouri. Missouri grows from its diverse and deep roots to advance progress for all. Third, declaring May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Missouri signals the importance of recognizing, celebrating, and protecting cultural and social diversity, especially for those of Asian and Pacific Islander descent. The nation has seen an uptick in violence and hate toward AAPI peoples, including the 2017 shooting of two Indian residents in Olathe, Kansas. Violence anywhere against anyone is unacceptable in a nation of laws for citizens who wish to live and prosper in a free, safe society. Racially-motivated devastating and hateful acts take a toll on our society - locally and nationally, socially, politically, culturally, and economically. The counter to the trend of violence and hate is to show leadership. It involves sharing a clear signal to all people about the importance of our mutual diversity. Both official acts and personal actions that connect us as a community and citizens amplify that signal and strengthen us. It is important to protect the interests and freedoms of all Americans, their innate existence, and their value as human beings and fellow citizens. As board advisor for the 15-year-old Kansas City chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals, I have witnessed multiple ways in which the Asian, Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Desi American (AAPIDA) communities have contributed to the growth and development of the KC metro. In 2019, we hosted the largest gathering of AAPIDA professionals in the history of our organization, with record-breaking financial contributions from national, regional, and local sponsors. To this day, our networks continue to remark that the event in Missouri disrupted the biases held by many about the Midwest, We are not alone in this collective work of strengthening Missouri's reputation and highlighting that small organizations can create a deep impact in a state that continuously evolves for the benefit of its citizens. Thank you for helping to accomplish this visibility and continuing this work by openly demonstrating the value of our diversity as a nation and society.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: IVELISSE SAINT-CLAIR		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: iveluz@live.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:12 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA NGUYEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jessicanguyen0405@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 6:32 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KAITLYN CROTTY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: katemcrotty@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 8:50 PM
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I am in support of this bill because it highlights their contributions and culture to the community.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KARL MANOZA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kdsmanoja@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 4:09 PM	

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Hello, members of the Missouri House of Representatives. I am writing to testify in support of House Bill 1051 by Representative Weber for the designation of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Missouri. I am a Filipino born Asian American and I am very proud of my heritage. It wasn't until my freshman year of college that I was introduced to the term AAPI Heritage Month. Growing up, my schools never mentioned the idea. My parents were not aware of the term as well as it was never a term that was heavily publicized. My family and I immigrated here to the US in 2003, of which my parents spoke little english and throughout my elementary/middle school, I would feel the odd one out. I'd become the product of an individual that would feel racial stereotypes and would often be ashamed of the way I was, the way I look, pretty much my entire genetic/physical makeup. College was really when I obtained more knowledge about the subject of AAPI Heritage Month, but even then, it wasn't really talked about at my school or within the community. It was sad that it took moments like "Stop Asian Hate" or the persecutions our communities all over the nation that was experienced in the span of 2019-2021 for more awareness to occur. Being able to express our heritage during the month of May essentially will bring insight to the younger generation of just how important and how valued they are as opposed to being discouraged from their peers. Teaching children about embracing their culture is highly important makes them more confident in the long run and inevitably become bright and emerging leaders. I have become heavily involved with AAPI/multicultural student organizations at my university in an effort to spread awareness and promote that May is AAPI Heritage Month. We've done so by being able to host fundraisers to support local AAPI businesses/vendors to hosting Gala's and events. Having this bill pass and allow Missouri to recognize May as AAPI Heritage will allow for another step in the right direction in promoting cultural awareness for AAPI individuals. I'm fortunate enough to partake in this endeavor and can't thank Representative Weber enough for the opportunity. Thank you!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KATHARINE (KATIE) KNO GERSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHERINE DECLUE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: katieadec clue@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:05 PM
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I support this because the AAPI community and their heritage are an integral part of our communities and it's important to be inclusive and recognize their values and traditions.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KATIE MISCHO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: katie.mischo@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 7:03 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KIM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kimle1994@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 6:01 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KIMBERLY J. CARLSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kcarlsonmph@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:11 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As a proud Filipino-American who has been residing in Kansas City, Missouri since 2008, I strongly support a formal declaration of May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. My Filipino culture and heritage are integral and important to almost every aspect of my life from developing a successful career, to where I volunteer with non-profits in my community, to what I eat, who I spend time with, and how I spend money at local businesses. Since 1990, the U.S. government has designated the month of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, celebrating the achievements and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) in the United States. It is overdue for my state to recognize this month and the important diverse contributions AAPI community members bring to Missouri. This declaration will support a culture of inclusion in the state which is positive for the well-being of AAPI people (more than 130,000 Missouri residents) and it is good for business and tourism as well, and therefore financially beneficial. I ask you to vote to acknowledge and recognize each May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KYLEE DAVIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kyleelldavis@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:52 PM
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API month is an opportunity to honor the rich diversity, history, and contributions of the AAPI community to our state and nation. It is a time to raise awareness of the challenges and discrimination that AAPI individuals and communities have faced and continue to face, and to celebrate their resilience and achievements. By designating May as AAPI month in Missouri, we can promote greater understanding, appreciation, and inclusivity for AAPI individuals and communities. This recognition is crucial in promoting social justice and equity for all Missourians.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LIEN NGUYEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lienkim27@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:02 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LISA BRUNE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: lrb3728@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:33 PM

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We need to support the Asian and Pacific Islander members of our communities and honor their unique history and contributions to our communities and countries.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LYNELLE HAUGABROOK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lynellenh@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 8:38 AM
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AAPI month



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MAI-LINH NGUYEN NORTH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mailinh@norths.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:14 PM
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We as Missouri citizens deserve to hear and uplift our Asian and Pacific Islander citizens during the month of May.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARKLI WEST		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: marklierin@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:26 PM

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In full support of Missouri declaring May as AAPI Heritage Month.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARLEY KAY LOWE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mklowe12@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:42 PM
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It will show to our AAPI community members that KC values you them and celebrates them. It will help bring awareness and visibility of the presences of AAPI people in our community. It will encourage our continued empowerment, support, and protection of AAPI community members within KC.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY BARNETT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: brian-barnett@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 4:56 PM
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I support this.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARYGOLD M FRY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: marygold@fryinc.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:47 PM
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As a Filipino American born in Illinois and lived in Missouri since 1992, I am in support of assigning the month of May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. It would bring positive recognition and awareness of the beauty of our culture and minimize the anti-Asian sentiment that has permeated our communities over the past couple of years. Celebrating Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage month can also educate and enlighten those of us who were born in this country and have lost touch with the traditions held by our grandparents.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MAX ZENG		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ASIAN AMERICAN CIVIC SCHOLARS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 8710 CLAYTON RD.			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63105
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MEGAN SANDRIDGE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: living.heirloom@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 8:53 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE WHA-LU JEN DAVIDSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jmdson@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/2/2023 1:45 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am a citizen of Missouri and support the passing of HB 1051 - Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. I was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri by first generation immigrant Chinese parents who came to the US to study. They had intended to return to China, but they ended up making St. Louis their home along with several hundred other Chinese immigrants who could not return to China due to political turmoil at the time. Not only did they learn to survive in a foreign country, they thrived as productive and positive citizens, contributing a great deal to the St. Louis community! Having spent my childhood during the 1950's and 60's, in St. Louis, I knew firsthand subtle discrimination against as one of "the other". This was confusing and sometimes very hurtful. People are taught to hate, but they can also be taught and encouraged to love and appreciate. I heartily endorse all efforts to recognize and celebrate beauty and diversity! Passage of HB 1051 is a good beginning.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MIN LIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CHINESE EDUCATION AND CULTURE CENTER IN ST. LOUIS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 6710 CLAYTON RD.			
CITY: RICHMOND		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63107
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MONICA PAUL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mopaul2172shop@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 4:50 PM
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Let's support our AAPI neighbors!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MORIAH ROBERTS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: giggiamo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 5:01 PM

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An official AAPI heritage month would make those who have that background feel included and hopefully whole as a person. And as minorities, they deserve to feel seen and celebrated.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NIKKI RAY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: nikkiray0727@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 10:12 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PETE DULIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pete.dulin@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:23 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Declaring May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Missouri is important for several reasons. First, such a declaration reinforces the diversity and cultural appeal of the state of Missouri for its citizens, leadership, and tourists as well as fellow U.S. citizens. Let Missouri be a leader in this regard. Second, creating and maintaining visibility of the state's commitment to diversity reinforces the economic appeal for external and internal businesses and organizations seeking to establish operations, relocate employees, host conferences and events, or otherwise do business in the state of Missouri. Missouri grows from its diverse and deep roots to advance progress for all. Third, declaring May as Asian and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month in Missouri signals the importance of recognizing, celebrating, and protecting cultural and social diversity, especially for those of Asian and Pacific Islander descent. The nation has seen an uptick in violence and hate toward AAPI peoples, including the 2017 shooting of two Indian men in Olathe, Kansas. Violence anywhere against anyone is unacceptable in a nation of laws for citizens who wish to live and prosper in a free, safe society. Racially-motivated devastating and hateful acts take a toll on our society - locally and nationally, socially, politically, culturally, and economically. The counter to the trend of violence and hate is to show leadership. It involves sharing a clear signal to all people about the importance of our mutual diversity. Both official acts and personal actions that connect us as a community and citizens amplify that signal and strengthen us. It is important to protect the interests and freedoms of all Americans, their innate existence, and their value as human beings and fellow citizens. Thank you for helping to accomplish this visibility by openly demonstrating the value of our diversity as a nation and society.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PETER H. LE-SANTELLAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: doclindgren@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 8:25 AM

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Asian and Pacific Islander heritage month is a way for people of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage to be acknowledged and recognized as people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PETER K. TAO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ptaohlee@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 10:04 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a Missourian, native St. Louisan and an American whose parents immigrated from China in 1947 to St. Louis. From that time onward, they became one of the biggest leaders in the Chinese American Community and an even bigger leader and supporter of the St. Louis Community. It is important that we Americans, of AAPI heritage, be recognized as an equal part of our Community. We are no less a people or humans. With such recognitions, it is also important (and hopeful) that people will learn and understand that the AAPI Community is not a homogenous group, with many different needs, as well as many different assets to bring to Missouri. The Anti-Asian rhetoric that prevails in the State of Missouri is simply not acceptable and frankly un-American. Therefore, I am in support of this bill which aims to do so.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PHON WILLS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: phonwillsphoto@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 11:55 AM
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I am in support of API Month.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PRIMA WAGAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: asdnpri@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 12:11 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in FULL support of HB 1051. I believe that Missouri should continue what Governor Parsons approved for May 2022 to continue as per HB 1051, that the month of May be herby designated “Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month” in Missouri. My parents came to this country in May 1966 from the Philippines after the 1965 Hart-Celler Immigration Act. My mother is a physician, an internist, and was recruited to come to the United States to help fill a need for more physicians here. My parents chose to come to St. Louis, Missouri and proudly became United States Citizens in 1977. I was born in St. Louis in August of 1967. As a life-long Missourian I believe that the contributions of the many Asians and Pacific Islanders who support and enhance Missouri – the citizens, the economy, the society, should be highlighted and celebrated with this designation for the month of May. In Missouri, Asian Pacific Islanders make up a significant portion of the population, and their rich history and traditions deserve to be celebrated. In the St. Louis region alone, the 2020 census counted more Asian residents, an increase of about 37%, than in 2010. The number of Asians in St. Louis and St. Charles counties grew by more than 40%, while in St. Louis city, it increased by nearly a third. Across the whole state the numbers continue to increase. We have been and continue to support and enrich Missouri. My parents were active in teaching and celebrating our heritage not just to us but to the whole St. Louis community by creating the Filipino-American Society of Greater St. Louis many years ago that was directly engaged in cultural and philanthropic works in our community. The recognition and support of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage month would be significant for all Missourians. All Missourians would share, learn and experience the rich impacts of their fellow neighbors and community members who have Asian and Pacific Islanders’ Heritage. I encourage you, the lawmakers of Missouri, to support HB 1051. Prima Wagan



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PRIMITIVA L. WAGAN, M.D.		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: plwagan@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 10:49 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in FULL support of HB 1051, that the month of May be hereby designated "Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month" in Missouri. I came to this country in 1966 from the Philippines after the 1965 Hart-Celler Act. I was as physician, an internist and was recruited to come to the United States to help fill a need for more physicians here. My husband and I chose to come to St. Louis, Missouri. I proudly became a United States Citizen in 1977. Many of my colleagues and peers came to Missouri to treat and serve the medical needs. We raised our families here. We shared our heritage with our families, neighbors and communities. I retired from active practice in 2020 – over fifty-three years of medical practice all served here in Missouri. My physician peers and other medical professionals – nurses, medical and radiological technologists, who came from Asian and Pacific Islander countries have collectively treated and cared for hundreds of thousands of Missourians over these years. Many of our children and other Asians and Pacific islanders proudly continue to treat and care for Missourians. Asians and Pacific Islanders continue to contribute to Missouri not just in health care fields but in many industries and areas. The 2020 census indicates that the number of Asians in St. Louis and St. Charles counties grew by more than 40%. Across the whole state the numbers continue to increase. We have been and continue to contribute and enrich Missouri. I believe that for Missouri to have the month of May be designated as "Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month" would honor the many Asians and Pacific Islanders who have been proud Missourians and have cared and treated so much of our state. I encourage lawmakers and community leaders to support this effort.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RAYMART DINGLAS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Sonastride@outlook.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 7:54 PM
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I am from the Philippines and appreciate more representation of who I am and others who look like me in the state.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: REMY SANANIKONE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sananikoner@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 9:24 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SAMANTHA PHOUANGPHANITH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: phouasam15@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 3:57 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARA CARLSEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: secarsen@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 4:29 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON O'ROURKE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: shannyo@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 6:28 PM

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This needs to happen! Especially with all the hate they have received as a community I think its super important to have this representedThank yoi!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHI CHEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: schen1989123@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 10:06 AM
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Dear Missouri House of Representatives, I am writing as an Asian American to express my support for the recognition of AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) Heritage Month in our state. The celebration of our unique and diverse cultural heritage is of great importance to me, my family, and our community. It is essential for us to acknowledge and appreciate the countless contributions of AAPI individuals to our society, as well as the challenges we face. As a proud member of the AAPI community, I have found solace and connection in celebrating our traditions. One such event that has left a lasting impression on me is the St. Louis Botanical Garden's Chinese Cultural Days. This heartwarming and reminiscent experience allowed me to connect with my roots, engage with others who share my heritage, and learn about the various aspects of Chinese culture. However, it is disheartening that even in this day and age, I continue to experience discrimination and prejudice. I recall a distressing incident when I was called racial slurs while riding my bike home by a drive-by driver who threatened to shoot me. It is incidents like these that reinforce the need for greater understanding and empathy toward the AAPI community. It is my earnest wish to see AAPI celebrations become normalized in public perception, akin to festivities such as St. Patrick's Day and Mardi Gras. Embracing the richness of our diverse cultural landscape will foster inclusivity, promote mutual respect, and build bridges across communities. I humbly request that you support the recognition of AAPI Heritage Month in our state. By doing so, you will help to create a more inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our society, while celebrating the vibrant and diverse cultural tapestry that makes our state and nation so great. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Shi Chen



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1051		DATE: 4/4/2023	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STANLEY SCHECHTER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: betty_vanuum@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/4/2023 10:19 AM
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I am a retired lawyer who had the privilege of representing many AAPI individuals and businesses in my career. I appreciated the opportunity to get to know great people who welcomed me and shared their culture, family stories and accomplishments with me. Missouri should be proud of these citizens and recognize the strength they contribute to our state. Thank you for allowing this statement.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVE CHU		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: stevendkchu@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 4:26 PM
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Missouri's declaration of May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is crucial for several reasons. Firstly, it highlights the state's diversity and cultural richness to its citizens, leadership, tourists, and fellow Americans. By taking this step, Missouri can set an example for other states to follow. Secondly, this declaration reinforces Missouri's commitment to diversity and inclusivity. It sends a clear message to businesses and organizations that Missouri is a welcoming place for all. This can help attract external and internal businesses and organizations seeking to establish operations, relocate employees, host conferences and events, or otherwise do business in the state of Missouri. Thirdly, declaring May as Asian and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month in Missouri is an important step towards recognizing, celebrating, and protecting cultural and social diversity. It is especially important given the recent increase in violence and hate crimes against AAPI peoples across the nation. Such acts are unacceptable in a free society that values diversity and inclusion. By taking this step, Missouri can show leadership in promoting mutual respect and understanding among all its citizens. Thank you for your efforts to promote diversity and inclusivity in Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2023 3:03 PM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tourism		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SYLVIA SCHEULER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sws8801@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 2:58 PM
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I am in FULL support of the work to recognize API Heritage Month in Missouri beginning May 2024. As a first generation Filipina whose parents immigrated in the late 1960s to make a home for their new family while supporting their existing family in the Philippines, I have been a Missouri resident and US Citizen for almost 55 years. Historically we were told to assimilate and adapt to others, but I'm grateful that my parents were active in teaching and celebrating our heritage by creating the Filipino-American Society in St. Louis many years ago that was directly engaged in cultural and philanthropic works in our community. Those efforts were often isolated without broad support outside of non-profit work. With the changing times, it becomes more important to recognize the contributions of the diverse population of Missouri residents and allow their voices within our schools, governments, and broader communities. The recognition and support of API Heritage Month would be significant not only for Missouri residents of Asian heritage, but also welcoming others of diverse cultures and backgrounds that contribute daily to our state, not only its history but its present and future. It become important to value and recognize us not only as Americans, but Asian Americans acknowledging that our lives and heritage help shape Missouri. Please give strong consideration to supporting this bill!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TEAH NGUYEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: teah.nguyen@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 5:56 PM
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I am in support of declaring May as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THUAN NGUYEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tnguyenkc@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 6:20 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TIARA PALMER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: tiara.palmer@delta.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 8:53 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: VANESSA SNYDER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: vbalingc@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 5:56 PM

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As a Filipino-American resident of Lake Lotawana, Missouri I would love for our state to celebrate the contributions that AAPIs have made and continue to make for our community. Additionally, with the increase in anti-asian hate during the COVID-19 pandemic, it was evident that there is a need to educate our community on the diverse cultures of the AAPI community not only to interrogate biases but to create a culture of inclusivity.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: YARA CHANGYIT-LEVIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: yaranoelle@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2023 12:04 AM
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I strongly support HB 1051 as a concrete action the Missouri state legislature can take to support the AAPI community. I've lived in Missouri since I was nine years old, and some of my favorite memories from living in St. Louis are grounded in the diverse and wonderful AAPI community here. Some are related to my personal family history. I clearly remember moments of connecting with my mother's Chinese heritage and some of my friends' Chinese backgrounds in different areas of St. Louis, as we ate delicious food from Chinese-owned businesses or cheered on our friends performing dance at the Botanical Garden on an official Chinese Culture Day. Other experiences have been valuable to me because I got to learn about other cultures. For example, my sister is a third-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and leads a demo team in St. Louis. Through her years (over a decade) of hard work and community building among both Korean and non-Korean instructors and students, I got to see how the Tae Kwon Do team brings Korean culture and history to Missouri in a meaningful way. Recognition and support of AAPI Missourians is so important for our state, and will raise up people of all backgrounds. We need to see and celebrate each other, as a foundation for bold steps towards true equity.