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**July 27, 2021**

**Joint Board Matter with Chairman McKay**

**Request to Proclaim September 15 – October 15, 2021**

**as Hispanic Heritage Month**

Members of the Board,

Hispanic Heritage Month is an annual celebration of the rich history, culture, and diversity of the Latinx and Hispanic communities. The event, which spans from September 15 to October 15, commemorates the contributions and influence of Hispanic American communities to our entire society. September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the commemoration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Hispanic countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, all who declared independence in 1821.

Hispanic Americans represent a vibrant and thriving part of our diverse Nation. During this period, America celebrates these diverse cultures and traditions. In Fairfax, we are very proud of the significant role that our Latinx and Hispanic communities play in our County.

Therefore, I move without objection, that the Board proclaim September 15 – October 15, 2021 as Hispanic Heritage Month in Fairfax County and urge all residents to join in recognizing the contributions of the Hispanic and Latinx American communities in the County and throughout the United States.

I also ask that the Office of Public Affairs prepare a proclamation, and invite representatives from CASA, Edu-Futuro, Defensores de la Cuenca, and the Virginia Latino Advisory Board to be presented with the proclamation at the September 14, 2021 Board Meeting.