

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** South Carolina is proud to be home to approximately 111,150 Asian American and Pacific Islander residents who contribute greatly to shaping, advancing, and enriching our great state; and
- WHEREAS,** the members of South Carolina's Asian American and Pacific Islander communities speak languages as diverse as Cantonese, Gujarati, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and others; and
- WHEREAS,** Asian American and Pacific Islander men and women have made valuable contributions to all areas of the Palmetto State, including in the areas of government, business, arts and sciences, medicine, law enforcement, and the military; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the Census Bureau's 2021 Annual Business Survey and the 2020 Non-Employer Statistics, Asian American and Pacific Islander owned businesses exceeded 22,700, comprising around 4.08 percent of all of South Carolina's small businesses; and
- WHEREAS,** the Asian American and Pacific Islander people of South Carolina are a treasured part of our communities and have shared their rich cultures and traditions with neighbors, friends, family, and citizens across the state; and
- WHEREAS,** diversity represents one of our state's greatest strengths and, by recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of Asian American and Pacific Islander men and women, our great state celebrates the importance of inclusion to build a brighter future for all our citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** South Carolina is committed to providing comprehensive support to ensure that she is welcoming and open to all people wishing to call her home.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

### ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize Asian American and Pacific Islander individuals and business owners for their significant contributions, sacrifices, and accomplishments and honor their unique heritage.



**HENRY McMASTER**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**