

Whereas: the Hispanic/Latino presence in America spans centuries, predating Spain's colonization of what is now part of the United States, and they have been an integral part of building our nation since the Revolutionary War; and

Whereas: Hispanic Heritage Month was established in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week, and expanded to a month-long observation in 1988 by President Reagan to celebrate and honor their substantial contributions to our democracy; and

Whereas: September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for the Latin American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua; Mexico celebrates Independence Day on September 16, and Chile celebrates Independence Day on September 17; and

Whereas: this year's theme of Hispanic Heritage Month is, "Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together" celebrating the innovation and resilience of Hispanics in the social, political, and economic growth in our city, state, and country; and

Whereas: Hispanics/Latinos shape our community every day as business owners, activists, artists, public servants, and more. From serving in the US military to being champions in the fight for civil rights, they remain strong leaders and changemakers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Cory Mason, Mayor of the City of Racine, do hereby proclaim September 15 through October 15, 2024, as:

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

and encourage all residents to inspire equity, create alliances, and celebrate diversity throughout our city.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Racine to be affixed.

Accomplished at the City Hall this 3rd day of September 2024.

Mayor	