

Whereas: Hispanic Heritage Month, known as "Mes de Herencia Hispana", was first observed in 1968 under President Johnson as Hispanic Heritage Week, and expanded in 1988 by President Reagan to the month we now celebrate; 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: Latinos are descendants from Latin American countries, Hispanics are descendants from Spanish speaking countries, including Spain; and Latinx is a gender neutral or non-binary term for people of Latin American descent. We recognize the Latinx identity also encompasses people in Black/African, Asian, Indigenous, and Queer communities; and

Whereas: Hispanic and Latinx Racinians represent an array of distinct and vibrant cultures that each bring unique social and cultural influences, enriching our community through the arts, histories, food, music and traditions of all 26+ Latin-American nations; and

Whereas: during Hispanic Heritage Month we pay tribute to the significant contributions Hispanic and Latinx Racinians have made to our city as entrepreneurs, scientists, medical professionals, teachers, artists, police officers, firefighters, athletes, and contributors in every field; and

Whereas: this year we lift up and congratulate the Hispanic Round Table on its 25th Anniversary of providing support, building partnerships, and strengthening the community to assist Hispanic and Latinx residents build a future that is bright with hope and opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Cory Mason, Mayor of the City of Racine, do hereby proclaim the 15th of September through the 15th of October, 2022, as:

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

and invite you to join me in honoring the invaluable contributions of our city's Hispanic and Latinx members.

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 6th day of September, 2022.