

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 25-0025R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmember Parker

Cosponsored by: President Cohen and Councilmembers Conway, Middleton, Torrence, Gray,  
Bullock, Blanchard, Jones, Ramos, Schleifer, and Porter

Introduced and adopted: May 12, 2025

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING**

**Recognizing May as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and  
Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

FOR the purpose of recognizing May as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month in Baltimore City and celebrating the significant contributions of AANHPI communities to the City's and the United States' history, economy, arts, and culture.

**Recitals**

**WHEREAS**, nearly 50 years ago, the United States first provided formal recognition to Asian Americans and their accomplishments. In 1978, President Carter signed a joint resolution that established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Over time, this recognition was expanded in length and scope to become Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

**WHEREAS**, the month of May marks events of significance in Asian American history, such as the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to the U.S. on May 7, 1843 and the placement on May 19, 1869 of the final spike in the transcontinental railroad, in which Chinese American laborers played a major role.

**WHEREAS**, as early as 1900, Chinese immigrants were among the first Asian immigrants to settle in Baltimore City. As this community grew, families and businesses established Baltimore City's Chinatown near the intersections of Marion and Liberty Streets.

**WHEREAS**, starting in the 1960s, Baltimore's first Koreatown began to emerge in the Charles North neighborhood, along with several Korean-owned businesses, including restaurants, dry cleaners, corner stores, carry-outs, a supermarket, gas stations, auto repair shops, wig stores, a rice cake shop, and more.

**WHEREAS**, today, nearly 20,000 City residents in Baltimore identify as members of AANHPI communities. Approximately two-thirds of the City's AANHPI residents are immigrants, while one-third are U.S.-born.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

## **Council Bill 25-0025R**

1       **WHEREAS**, in 2024, Baltimore City served AANHPI residents that speak a diverse range of  
2 languages, including Arabic, Burmese, Dari, Korean, Mandarin, Nepali, Thai, Uzbek, and  
3 Vietnamese.

4       **WHEREAS**, the City Council celebrates the significant contributions that Baltimore's  
5 AANHPI communities have made to the City's history and culture.

6       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the  
7 Baltimore City Council recognizes May as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific  
8 Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month in Baltimore City and celebrates the significant  
9 contributions of AANHPI communities to the City's and the United States' history, economy,  
10 arts, and culture.

11       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor's Office  
12 of Immigrant Affairs and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.