

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

**PROCLAMATION NO. 2023-026**

Proclaiming April 2023 as Arab American Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners finds:**

- A. Multnomah County, Oregon is deeply enriched by the diversity of its residents and is proud to be home to a thriving Arab American community.
- B. For over a century, Arab Americans have been making valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society, including in science, medicine, law, business, education, technology, government, and culture.
- C. Victor George Atiyeh, who served as the 32nd Governor of Oregon from 1979 to 1987, was the first Arab American elected as Governor of a US state.
- D. Arab Americans, like all Americans, share the desire to be a part of a peaceful and diverse society, in which every individual is treated equally and feels safe.
- E. It is imperative to increase awareness about key issues and priorities within the Arab American community and combat harmful stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination.
- F. The incredible contributions and heritage of Arab Americans have helped us build a city and a better nation.
- G. In July 2021 Governor Brown signed into law HB 2914, which declares April of each year as Arab American Heritage Month. Oregon is the second state along with Illinois which has permanently recognized Arab American Heritage Month. This year is a historic event for Arab Americans in Oregon and nationwide.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners proclaims:**

April 2023 as *National Arab American Heritage Month* in Multnomah County, and encourages all residents to observe this month.


**ADOPTED this 27th day of April, 2023.**



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON

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Jessica Vega Pederson, Chair

REVIEWED:  
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By:   
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Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Mohammad Bader, Director, Department of County Human Services