



## *Proclamation*

**Whereas**, each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America; and

**Whereas**, the observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was later expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period, which is celebrated today from September 15 through October 15; and

**Whereas**, this is an opportunity to celebrate and observe the rich cultural traditions and honor the significant achievements of our Hispanic, Latin and Latin Americans who have made enormous contributions to our diverse society by sharing their talents, culture, traditions, and their deep connection to family values, faith, and a desire to live the American dream; and

**Whereas**, Latinos are individuals that are descendants from Latin American countries and may speak a variety of different languages. Hispanics are individuals that speak Spanish and are descendants from Spanish speaking countries, including Spain; and

**Whereas**, we recognize and honor the many ways that Hispanics and Latinos have enriched the fabric of our society as civil rights leaders and community organizers, politicians, soldiers, educators, journalists, first responders, pioneers in art and science, healthcare professionals, athletes, inventors, entertainers, and so much more, while also rededicating ourselves to address the lack of equal access to opportunity that many still face; and

**Whereas**, diversity is strength, and we must do the work to achieve a brighter, more equitable future and during National Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month, we reaffirm Watchung's commitment to values of dignity, inclusivity, and respect for all, regardless of ethnic or national origin, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or immigration status.

**Now, therefore be it resolved**, that I, Ronald Jubin, Mayor of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, along with Members of the Council do hereby recognize and proclaim September 15 through October 15, 2023 to be:

### **National Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month**

in the Borough of Watchung and call on all residents to join me in recognizing the continuing contributions made by Hispanic and Latin Americans.

  
Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor  
September 7, 2023