WHEREAS, California is proud to be home to the largest Filipino American population in the nation that contributes greatly to shaping, advancing, and enriching our community and nearly 100,000 Filipinos live in Alameda County, representing 6% of its total population; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans are the third largest Asian American group in the United States and the second largest Asian American group in the state of California; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans comprise about 10% of the students of Ohlone Community College District; and

WHEREAS, the earliest Filipinos arrived at Morro Bay, California, in the 16th century; and

WHEREAS, the majority of those in the county reside in the central and southern cities, including Union City, Fremont, Hayward and San Leandro; and

WHEREAS, in November 2009, the United States Congress passed a resolution to officially recognize October as Filipino American History Month; and

WHEREAS, Filipino men and women have made valuable contributions to all areas of life throughout California and the United States, including government, business, education, arts and sciences, medicine and healthcare, law enforcement, and the military; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans have a long history of engaging in social justice movements across the nation including, but not limited to, the United Farmworkers Movement, the fight for Ethnic Studies, and the Hawaii Sugar Plantation; and

WHEREAS, the Filipino American communities have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends while setting examples as model citizens and public servants; and

WHEREAS, diversity represents one of Ohlone Community College District’s greatest strengths, and by recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of Filipino American men and women, Ohlone College and the surrounding communities celebrate the importance of inclusion to build a brighter future for all of citizens; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohlone Community College District Board of Trustees do hereby proclaim October 2021 as Filipino American Heritage Month at Ohlone College and encourage all the members of the college community to continually engage in efforts to learn, respect and engage the heritage of the Filipino American community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 13th day of October, 2021.