PROCLAIMING NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH SEPTEMBER 15 – OCTOBER 15, 2010

WHEREAS, Hispanic/Latinos with enduring values of faith and family, hard work and sacrifice, have preserved the rich heritage of generations past while contributing mightily to the promise of our Nation, as well as the State of California and Marin County; and

WHEREAS, the Hispanic/Latino community, with roots in Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Spain, reflect the remarkable diversity of the American people; and

WHEREAS, Marin County history records early settlements of the Spanish, long before the birth of the United States, including Rancho de Novato, Rancho de Sobrante de Punta de los Reyes, Rancho Nicasio, Rancho de Corte Madera del Presidio, and the very elegant Rancho de Santa Margarita, San Pedro y las Gallinas. These Spanish names still grace our County as the names of cities, towns, streets and neighborhoods, including Tiburon, Sausalito, San Rafael, Novato, Terra Linda, Point Reyes, Corte Madera, Nicasio, Las Gallinas, Lagunitas and San Pedro; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic/Latino Americans have played a leadership role in our Nation's success in science, athletics, the arts, business, government, and every other field of endeavor. In Marin, we recognize our own Latino Leaders, including Marin County Public Defender Jose Varela; Breast Cancer Advocate Danila Cuba of San Marin High School; Businesswoman & Philanthrophist Molona Robbins, and Renowned Author Isabel Allende; and

WHEREAS, Marin County had its first Latino Art Exhibits in 2010, a collaboration of the Marin Art Council with Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Marin, Latino Council, Friends of Marin Center and Marin Community Foundation; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census, in 2008 there were 1.1 million Hispanic/Latino veterans of the US Armed Forces. Courageous Hispanic/Latino men and women have received the highest number of decorations in times of war than any other ethnic minority and have diligently served our country in the armed forces, protecting Americans since the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic/Latino men and women have distinguished themselves in every endeavor and are crucial to maintaining our Nation's competitiveness and prosperity in the global economy of the 21st century. According to the U.S. Census, there were 2.3 million Hispanic-owned businesses in 2007 (an increased of 43% since 2002), and Latina-owned businesses are the fastest growing business sector in the U.S.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims September 15 – October 15, 2010, as "National Hispanic Heritage Month" to honor of the many contributions that Hispanic/Latino Americans and residents have made for the betterment of our County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 5th day of October 2010.