



City of Mount Rainier

*Proclamation in Recognition and Celebration of
Jewish American Heritage Month*

WHEREAS, since the first Jewish immigrants arrived in the United States in the 16th century, Jewish people have been instrumental in the prosperity our state and nation; and,

WHEREAS, Jewish American Heritage Month was first recognized nationally by President George W. Bush in 2006, and has been reaffirmed in the following years; and,

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans continue to enrich every part of American life and the City of Mount Rainier as educators and entrepreneurs, the arts, athletes and artists, scientists and entertainers, public officials and activists, labor and community leaders, diplomats and military service members, public health heroes, and more; and,

WHEREAS, During the Jewish American Heritage Month, we elevate the achievements and contributions made by the Jewish Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political; and,

WHEREAS, Jewish suffragists fought to expand freedom and justice. And Jewish faith leaders linked arms with giants of the Civil Rights Movement to demand equal rights for all; and,

WHEREAS, Early on, they fought for religious freedom, helping define one of the bedrock principles upon which America was built. Union soldiers celebrated Passover in the midst of the Civil War; and,

WHEREAS, during this month, I encourage all residents of Mount Rainier to seek out ways to engage with Jewish history, including museum exhibits, literary works, and more; and,

WHEREAS, in May 2023, President Biden launched the White House National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism, an effort with bipartisan backing that is one of the most ambitious, comprehensive effort in U.S. history to counter antisemitism; and,

WHEREAS, I call upon residents of the City of Mount Rainier to take action at the community level to ensure that discrimination of any kind, including antisemitism, are unacceptable in the City of Mount Rainier; and,

WHEREAS, during this month, let us celebrate the many contributions Jewish people continue to make in Mount Rainier, Maryland and throughout the United States; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I, Celina Benitez, Mayor of the City of Mount Rainier do hereby proclaim May as Jewish Heritage Month in the City of Mount Rainier and every year from today on The City of Mount Rainier; and urge all our citizens to celebrate Jewish American Community heritage and culture.

Celina R. Benitez

Honorable Mayor Celina R. Benitez
City of Mount Rainier, Maryland
May 2023