



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 24-009

**RECOGNIZING APRIL 2024 AS NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Arab American Heritage Month was first recognized by a U.S. president in 2021 in a letter issued by President Biden to Arab America and the Arab America Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County is proud to join in celebrating the heritage and culture of Arab Americans in Snohomish County; and

WHEREAS, the first documented Arabic speaker, Zammouri, arrived in North America as an enslaved person from Morocco in 1528. Since then, people of Arab decent have made many worthwhile contributions to numerous aspects of American life, including business, culture, education, government, law, medicine, military service, technology, and more; and

WHEREAS, approximately four million Arab Americans live in the United States. Currently no category exists on the U.S. Census for Arab, Middle Eastern, or North African people. They are told to self-identify as white or Caucasian resulting in underrepresentation in data and inequitable access to services and resources; and

WHEREAS, despite facing marginalization and targeted racism, the Arab American community in Snohomish County continues to persevere and inspire; and

WHEREAS, Arab American communities in Snohomish County enrich our community through their resiliency, rich family and community values, strong work ethic, entrepreneurial spirit, dedication to education, diversity in background and religions, and support for democracy; and

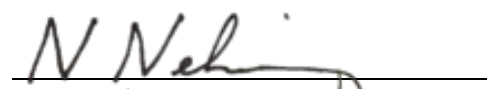
WHEREAS, Arab Americans join the broader community in the desire for a peaceful, just, and diverse community where everyone is treated fairly and can exercise their freedoms without fear;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize April as Arab American Heritage Month in Snohomish County. The County Council encourages everyone in Snohomish County to honor our Arab American neighbors by celebrating the community's rich heritage and honoring their valuable contributions to society.

APPROVED this 27th day of March, 2024.




Jared Mead
Council Chair



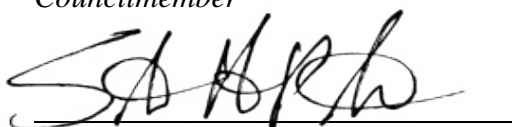
Nate Nehring
Council Vice-Chair




Sam Low
Councilmember



Megan Dunn
Councilmember



Strom Peterson
Councilmember

ATTEST: 

Elena Lao, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Council