

RESOLUTION NO. 26-19

Larry Itliong Day

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong was a native of the Philippines and was born on October 25, 1913, in San Nicolas, Pangasinan; and

WHEREAS, at 15 years of age with only a sixth grade education, Larry Itliong moved to the United States of America in 1929. As a result of the Great Depression, Larry Itliong was forced to work on the railroads and then as a migrant farmworker traveling through Montana, South Dakota, Washington, and finally California. During that time, Larry Itliong learned of the plight suffered by Filipinos and other immigrants working as farm laborers; and

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong was a prominent leader in the American farm labor movement. He organized a group of 1,500 Filipinos to strike against the grape growers of Delano, California, and continued on that strike for eight days while suffering through violence imposed by the growers' hired hands and the sheriff's department; and

WHEREAS, despite this treatment, Larry Itliong remained tenacious and resilient, calling upon César Chávez and his followers to join forces with the Filipinos and strike together. Due partly as a result of Larry Itliong's persuasiveness, the two groups combined, establishing the United Farm Workers of America Organizing Committee of the AFL-CIO, which led to the United Farm Workers of America; and

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong moved on to become the President of the Filipino American Political Association, the first national political Filipino American organization and a crucial alliance between Filipino professionals and laborers that grew out of the Delano Grape Strike; and

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong was also instrumental in the founding of the Pablo Agbayani Village, a retirement home built by volunteers for retired Filipino Manongs who no longer had families and needed a place to call home; and

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong passed away in 1977 at the age of 63 leaving behind his wife and seven children.

WHEREAS, California passed legislation in 2015 to establish October 25 as Larry Itliong Day to encourage public schools and educational institutions to remember the life and contributions of Larry Itliong; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments and contributions of Larry Itliong should be properly memorialized within the history and culture of the United States of America.

October 12, 2018

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NOW, THEREFORE, Davis Joint Unified School District, does hereby proclaim October 25, 2018 as Larry Itliong Day throughout the District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of October 2018.

AYES: Adams, Archer, Fernandes, Klineberg, Poppenga

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Tom Adams, President, Board of Education
Davis Joint Unified School District

Attest:

John A. Bowes, Ed.D., Secretary, Board of Education