

Vaisakhi (April 14th) Resolution in U.S Senate

By : U.S Senator Chris Murphy (D.Conn.)

LEW18224

S.L.C.

115TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. RES .469

Recognizing the historic, cultural, and religious significance of the festival of Vaisakhi, and expressing respect for all communities that celebrate Vaisakhi.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MURPHY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on judiciary.

April 16th 2018

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the historic, cultural, and religious significance of the festival of Vaisakhi, and expressing respect for all communities that celebrate Vaisakhi.

Whereas Vaisakhi has been celebrated in the Punjab region of South Asia for centuries and today is also celebrated in communities throughout India, in the United States, and around the world;

Whereas Vaisakhi is an annual festival celebrating the spring harvest season;

Whereas Vaisakhi is of particular significance to the Sikh religion and is one of the most important dates in Sikh history;

Whereas, for Sikhs, Vaisakhi commemorates the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

Whereas Vaisakhi celebrates community, prosperity, and continued progress in the year ahead:
Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the historic, cultural, and religious significance of the festival of Vaisakhi; and

(B) the significance of Vaisakhi to Sikh communities in the United States and around the world;
and

(2) expresses respect for all communities that celebrate Vaisakhi.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

House of Representatives

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SIKH COMMUNITY OF CONNECTICUT ON VAISAKHI

HON. JOSEPH D. COURTNEY
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
April 11, 2016

MR. SPEAKER, I rise today to recognize the Sikh Community of Connecticut, and their dedicated leaders who are working hard to challenge the misconceptions and stereotypes the Sikh community faces in Connecticut, and the nation as a whole. Many American Sikhs face misunderstanding in their schools and workplaces, despite the over 100-year history of the faith in America. I thank the Sikh Community of Connecticut for their work to bring greater understanding of Sikh values to all Americans. In particular, Mr. Swaranjit Singh Khalsa and the Sikh Sivak Society, who organized an awareness campaign in my district to educate eastern Connecticut residents about Sikhism through public service advertisements seen around town. I was fortunate to meet Mr. Singh in my office recently to discuss the project and the challenges the community is facing.

Sikhism originated in the Punjab region of South Asia, founded on the ideals of devotion to God, service to others, social justice, and equality of all people. Twenty-five million people practice Sikhism all over the world, including 250,000 Sikhs in the United States, making Sikhism the fifth largest religion in the world. Immigration of Sikhs to the United States primarily began in the 1960s, as many came in search of higher education, and stayed to raise families. Indeed, Sikhs have made great contributions to the culture, economy, and society of the United States.

This month, Sikhs all over the world will be celebrating Vaisakhi. This holiday commemorates the founding of the Khalsa, or the collective body of committed Sikhs.

Vaisakhi is a time to acknowledge the values of Sikhism, and the growth of the Sikh community. This year, the Sikh Community of America organized the Freedom March for Sikh Nation on April 9th in Washington, D.C. This event is a time for all Americans to come together to learn about and celebrate Vaisakhi, and bring attention to issues surrounding Sikh identity in the United States.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Sikh community for their many contributions to American culture, Mr. Singh for his efforts to bring understanding about Sikhism to my region, and to wish all a joyous Vaisakhi.

Joe Courtney

In Recognition of
THE
Sikh American Community's
CELEBRATION OF

Vaisakhi

HOUSE RESOLUTION 192

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over 5 centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25,000,000 adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 500,000 adherents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the economic vibrancy of the United States as farmers, engineers, doctors, scientists, and business owners; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans continue to make strides toward securing religious liberty as patriotic members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship): Now, therefore, be it now

RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives wishes the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi.



John Garamendi

Co-Chair

American Sikh Congressional Caucus



CONGRESSMAN JOE COURTNEY

2ND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

Proudly Recognizes

APRIL 14TH AS "NATIONAL SIKH DAY"

I PRAISE THE SIKH COMMUNITY ON THEIR MOST SACRED DAY FOR THE TREMENDOUS CONTRIBUTIONS THAT THEY HAVE MADE TO OUR DISTRICT AND TO OUR NATION. I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST ON YOUR MOST HOLY DAY AND THANK YOU FOR BEING UPSTANDING NEIGHBORS AND CITIZENS.

APRIL 21, 2019

DATE

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Courtney".

CONGRESSMAN JOE COURTNEY

CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
CONNECTICUT

SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
HART 136
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-4041

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

120 HUYSHOPE AVENUE
SUITE 401
HARTFORD, CT 06106
(860) 549-8463

<http://murphy.senate.gov>

April 14, 2019

Dear Friends:

I would like to extend my best wishes to everyone in the Sikh Community of Connecticut as you celebrate National Sikh Day. For over 300 years April 14, Vaishki Day, has been celebrated by millions of Sikhs around the world. I also want to commend the Hamden Gurudwara for their continued efforts to recognize those who have made a tremendous difference and for their commitment to supporting critical resources that will strengthen the vibrant Sikh community for generations to come.

The chance to recognize members of the Sikh American community in Hamden and throughout the State of Connecticut is immensely rewarding. Connecticut has a long and rich cultural history. The tapestry we weave as a state and a nation is made more vibrant by the contributions from members of the Sikh American community. We cannot thank you enough for unique culture you add to our state.

Hamden is fortunate to have the Hamden Gurudwara serving as an historic beacon of hope in the community. Your graceful, enduring presence brings tremendous pride to the State of Connecticut. I wish you the best of luck in the future, and I look forward to working hand-in-hand with you for years to come.

Every best wish,



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 173 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY MICCARELLI, MILLARD, HARHART, KIM, SCHWEYER,
BROWNLEE, McNEILL, D. COSTA, COHEN, GINGRICH, WATSON,
BRADFORD AND MURT, MARCH 23, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 23, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing April 14, 2015, as the observance of "Vaisakhi" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is a holiday observed by Sikhs throughout
4 the world, celebrating the spring harvest and commemorating the
5 1699 gathering at Anandpur Sahib in Punjab, India, when the
6 founding of the Sikh family of soldier saints known as Khalsa
7 Panth occurred; and

8 WHEREAS, The Sikh faith, which was established in the Punjab
9 region of India in the 1400s, persevered and expanded, with Guru
10 Gobind Singh founding the Khalsa Panth, a new order of Sikhism,
11 in 1699; and

12 WHEREAS, The Sikh people have a renowned military history
13 marked by gallantry and self-sacrifice that is epitomized by the
14 heroic last stand at the Battle of Saragarhi; and

15 WHEREAS, The Battle of Saragarhi was fought on September 12,
16 1897, between the 36th Sikh Regiment of British India, defending
17 an army post, and 10,000 Afghan and Orakzai tribesmen; and

1 WHEREAS, When the British commander radioed the 21 Sikhs, led
2 by Havildar Ishar Singh, that timely reinforcement was
3 impossible, they chose not to abandon the fort but instead to
4 stand and fight to the death; and

5 WHEREAS, Details of the fight were continuously relayed to
6 the command as the Sikhs died gallantly, one by one, delaying
7 the Afghan attack so severely that the invading force was
8 eventually repulsed; and

9 WHEREAS, The British Parliament rendered the Sikhs a standing
10 ovation upon hearing the accounts and Queen Victoria stated,
11 "The British, as well as the Indians, are proud of the 36th Sikh
12 Regiments. It is no exaggeration to record that the armies which
13 possess the valiant Sikhs cannot face defeat in war"; and

14 WHEREAS, All 21 Sikhs who died at Saraghari were awarded the
15 Indian Order of Merit, equivalent to the Victoria Cross; and

16 WHEREAS, Today the Sikh people, who now number in the tens of
17 millions worldwide, mark Vaisakhi with parades, dancing, singing
18 and other festivities; and

19 WHEREAS, The Sikh community of Pennsylvania, part of the rich
20 cultural fabric of this Commonwealth, makes many valuable
21 contributions as its members work in a variety of professions
22 and businesses and contribute to their local communities;
23 therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize April
25 14, 2015, as the day to recognize the observance of "Vaisakhi"
26 in Pennsylvania.

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 192

Honoring the Sikh American community's celebration of Vaisakhi.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. CHU of California, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. LEE, Mr. HONDA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. BERA, and Mr. SWALWELL of California) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

RESOLUTION

Honoring the Sikh American community's celebration of
Vaisakhi.

Whereas Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over 5 centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century;

Whereas Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25,000,000 adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 500,000 adherents in the United States;

Whereas Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the economic vibrancy of the United States as farmers, engineers, doctors, scientists, and business owners;

Whereas Sikh Americans continue to make strides toward securing religious liberty as patriotic members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699;

Whereas the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

Whereas the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship): Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives wishes
- 2 the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi.

○

S. RES. 464

Whereas the Take Our Daughters To Work program was created in New York City as a response to research that showed that, by the 8th grade, many girls were dropping out of school, had low self-esteem, and lacked confidence;

Whereas, in 2003, the name of the program was changed to "Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work" so that boys who face many of the same challenges as girls could also be involved in the program;

Whereas, in 2018, the mission of the program, to develop "innovative strategies that empower girls and boys to overcome societal barriers to reach their full potential", fully reflects the addition of boys;

Whereas the Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Foundation, a nonprofit organization, has grown to be one of the largest public awareness campaigns, with more than 40,000,000 participants annually in more than 3,500,000 organizations and workplaces representing each State;

Whereas, in 2007, the Take Our Daughters To Work program transitioned to Elizabeth City, North Carolina, became known as the Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Foundation, and received national recognition for its dedication to future generations;

Whereas, every year, mayors, governors, and other private and public officials sign proclamations and lend support to Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Day;

Whereas the fame of the Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work program has spread overseas, with requests and inquiries being made from around the world on how to operate the program;

Whereas 2018 marks the 25th anniversary of the Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work program;

Whereas Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Day will be observed on Thursday, April 26, 2018; and

Whereas, by offering opportunities for children to experience activities and events, Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Day is intended to continue helping millions of girls and boys on an annual basis to examine their opportunities and strive to reach their fullest potential: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the goals of introducing our daughters and sons to the workplace; and

(2) commends all participants of Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Day for the—
(A) ongoing contributions that the participants make to education; and

(B) vital role that the participants play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 465—ELECTING MICHAEL C. STENGER AS SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 465

Electing Michael C. Stenger as Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

Resolved, That Michael C. Stenger of Virginia be, and he is hereby, elected Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

SENATE RESOLUTION 466—NOTIFYING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF A SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 466

Notifying the President of the United States of the election of a Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be notified of the election of the Honorable Michael C. Stenger as Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

SENATE RESOLUTION 467—NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF A SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 467

Notifying the House of Representatives of the election of a Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

Resolved, That the House of Representatives be notified of the election of the Honorable Michael C. Stenger as Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

SENATE RESOLUTION 468—DESIGNATING MAY 19, 2018, AS "KIDS TO PARKS DAY"

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 468

Whereas the 8th annual Kids to Parks Day will be celebrated on May 19, 2018;

Whereas the goal of Kids to Parks Day is to promote healthy outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship, empower young people, and encourage families to get outdoors and visit the parks and public land of the United States;

Whereas on Kids to Parks Day, individuals from rural and urban areas of the United States can be reintroduced to the splendid national, State, and neighborhood parks located in their communities;

Whereas communities across the United States offer a variety of natural resources and public land, often with free access, to individuals seeking outdoor recreation;

Whereas the people of the United States, young and old, should be encouraged to lead more healthy and active lifestyles;

Whereas Kids to Parks Day is an opportunity for families to take a break from their busy lives and come together for a day of active, wholesome fun; and

Whereas Kids to Parks Day will broaden an appreciation for nature and the outdoors in young people, foster a safe setting for independent play and healthy adventure in neighborhood parks, and facilitate self-reliance while strengthening communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 19, 2018, as "Kids to Parks Day";

(2) recognizes the importance of outdoor recreation and the preservation of open

spaces to the health and education of the young people of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 469—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC, CULTURAL, AND RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FESTIVAL OF VAISAKHI, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ALL COMMUNITIES THAT CELEBRATE VAISAKHI

Mr. MURPHY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES 469

Whereas Vaisakhi has been celebrated in the Punjab region of South Asia for centuries and today is also celebrated in communities throughout India, in the United States, and around the world;

Whereas Vaisakhi is an annual festival celebrating the spring harvest season;

Whereas Vaisakhi is of particular significance to the Sikh religion and is one of the most important dates in Sikh history;

Whereas, for Sikhs, Vaisakhi commemorates the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

Whereas Vaisakhi celebrates community, prosperity, and continued progress in the year ahead: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the historic, cultural, and religious significance of the festival of Vaisakhi; and

(B) the significance of Vaisakhi to Sikh communities in the United States and around the world; and

(2) expresses respect for all communities that celebrate Vaisakhi.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2232. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. SULLIVAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 140, to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 to clarify the use of amounts in the WMAT Settlement Fund.

SA 2233. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2232 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. SULLIVAN)) to the bill S. 140, *supra*.

SA 2234. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill S. 140, *supra*.

SA 2235. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2234 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 140, *supra*.

SA 2236. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2235 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the amendment SA 2234 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill S. 140, *supra*.

SA 2237. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 140, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2232. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. SULLIVAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 140, to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water

State of Indiana



Indiana General Assembly

SENATE RESOLUTION SIXTY-EIGHT

A SENATE RESOLUTION Recognizing and acknowledging the significant contributions that American Sikhs have made across the United States and to the State of Indiana on the occasion of Vaisakhi as "National Sikh Day".

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a monotheistic religion that was founded 500 years ago and believes in one omnipresent God;

WHEREAS, Guru Nanak was the founder and first guru of Sikhs;

State of Indiana



Indiana General Assembly

SENATE RESOLUTION SIXTY-EIGHT

A SENATE RESOLUTION Recognizing and acknowledging the significant contributions that American Sikhs have made across the United States and to the State of Indiana on the occasion of Vaisakhi as "National Sikh Day".

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a monotheistic religion that was founded 500 years ago and believes in one omnipresent God;

WHEREAS, Guru Nanak was the founder and first guru of Sikhs;

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is an annual event celebrated in the month of April in the Punjab region of India, and American Sikhs celebrate Vaisakhi as "National Sikh Day";

WHEREAS, Sikhism today has a following of over 20 million people worldwide and is currently the fifth largest religion;

WHEREAS, Among other things, Sikhism preaches a message of devotion, truthful living, equality of mankind, and social justice;

WHEREAS, Key tenants of Sikhism include living the life of a householder, earning an honest living, and avoiding worldly temptations and sins;

WHEREAS, Sikhs believe that people of different races, religions, or sex are all equal in the eyes of God and in the full equality of men and women;

WHEREAS, There are nearly one million Sikhs living in the United States, and an estimated 10,000 Sikhs living in Indiana;

WHEREAS, The Sikh people have been living in the United States for over 100 years, and in Indiana for over 50 years;

WHEREAS, The Sikh place of worship is known as Gurdwara Sahib, and there are currently more than 20 Gurdwara Sahibs all over Indiana;

WHEREAS, A hallmark of Sikh values and tradition is the community kitchen, known as Langar. Langar is the term used in the Sikh religion for the common kitchen where food is served in all Gurdwaras to all the visitors, without distinction of faith, religion, or background, for free;

WHEREAS, Sikhs are one of the fastest growing business communities in Indiana;

WHEREAS, Indiana is home to about 3,500 Sikh-owned businesses, including gas stations, convenience stores, restaurants, and trucking and transportation businesses;

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the economic vibrancy of the United States as farmers, engineers, doctors, scientists, and business owners;

WHEREAS, Sikhs continue to make strides toward securing religious liberty as patriotic members of the United States Armed Forces;

WHEREAS, Sikhs have served on local, state, and federal levels of government in the United States;

WHEREAS, Sikhs provide significant contributions to and continue to serve our country, our state, and our communities;

WHEREAS, The faithful service of the Sikh community to this state and the country merits appreciation as an integral thread in the fabric of American plurality; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the Indiana Senate recognizes and acknowledges the significant contributions that American Sikhs have made across the United States, to the State of Indiana, and to local communities on the great occasion of Vaisakhi as "National Sikh Day";

*Therefore,
Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

SECTION 1 That the Indiana Senate recognizes and acknowledges the significant contributions that American Sikhs have made across the United States and to the State of Indiana on the great occasion of Vaisakhi as "National Sikh Day".

SECTION 2 The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Gurinder Singh Khalsa, founder and chairman of SikhsPAC.

Adopted by voice vote this twentieth day of April, 2017.

John Freeman
John Freeman
State Senator

Tim Laney
Tim Laney
House Leader
State Senator



Joe E. Donohue
Joe E. Donohue
State Senator

David C. Long
David C. Long
President Pro Tempore
State Senator

Christina Mertz
Christina Mertz
Secretary of the Senate



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 164

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018

No. 58

Senate

RECOGNIZING THE SIKH COMMUNITY IN NEW JERSEY

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the important contributions of the Sikh community in New Jersey and across the country. New Jersey is enriched by the diversity of its residents who have promoted a climate of social tolerance and intellectual pluralism that has sustained our State throughout its history. Since first immigrating to the United States from Punjab, India, over 100 years ago, the Sikh community has played a critical role in enhancing and contributing to New Jersey and our Nation.

This month, Sikhs in New Jersey and across the country will celebrate their most significant annual event, *Vaisakhi*, the Sikh New Year; providing the Sikh community the time to remember history, celebrate collectively, and recommit to their religious traditions.

The New Jersey Sikh community has demonstrated a strong commitment to public service. Every *Gurdwara*, the Sikh place of worship, has a *Langar*, a free community kitchen that serves all visitors regardless of religion, caste, gender, economic status, or ethnicity. The *Langar* instills the notion of equality and the brotherhood for all. Every November, the New Jersey Sikh community expands on this tradition and organizes the "Let's Share a Meal" event that distributes meals to homeless shelters in the area. In 2017, 275 Sikh community members prepared, packed, and delivered meals to 84 shelters over 2 days. This served more than 15,000 New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania residents.

New Jersey also recently welcomed three Sikh Americans as new public officials. On January 1, 2018, Ravi Bhalla became Hoboken's 30th mayor and the

State's first Sikh mayor. Bhalla had previously served two terms on Hoboken's city council. Although Bhalla experienced periodic hateful attacks during his mayoral campaign, voters resoundingly rejected such divisive rhetoric when they elected him mayor.

In addition to electing its first Sikh mayor, New Jersey also elected Balvir Singh as a member of the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders, making him the first Sikh American to win a county-wide election in New Jersey. Singh, who served for nearly 2 years as a member of the Burlington Township Board of Education, was sworn into office on January 3, 2018.

New Jersey is also home to the Nation's first Sikh State attorney general, Gurbir Grewal. Grewal had previously served as the Bergen County prosecutor. The State Senate unanimously approved his appointment by a 29-0 vote on January 16. Grewal will enforce the law in a manner that protects all New Jersey residents.

The broad support that these three individuals garnered is a testament to New Jersey's culture of inclusion of individuals of all ethnicities and religious backgrounds.

However, we know that Sikh Americans across the country continue to endure discrimination and hateful attacks, from school bullying to verbal assaults to violence.

I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing the important contributions of the Sikh community across the country as it celebrates its New Year festival. May we join with Sikh Americans in rejecting discrimination of any kind and embracing the rich diversity that makes each of our States strong and whole.

Certificate of Senatorial Recognition

United States Senator Mike Braun

Senator for Indiana

In recognition of the significant contributions American Sikhs have made across the United States and to the State of Indiana on Vaisakhi, "National Sikh Day".

Sikhism is a monotheistic religion that was founded more than 500 years ago and believes in one omnipresent God. Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 100 years, and during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikh Americans worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific & Eastern Railroad. Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and today, there are more than 30 million Sikhs worldwide, estimated 1 million Sikh Americans and 10,000 Hoosiers Sikhs. Vaisakhi is one of the most historically significant days of the year for Sikhs and is celebrated on April 14, 2019. The year of 2019 is the 550th Birth Anniversary of the first of ten gurus and founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanak. This day is celebrated for Sikhs in Indiana, the United States, and worldwide as Guru Nanak's Gurburab, and is one of the most important dates in the Sikh calendar. Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions, and make rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces and significant contributions to our great nation in agriculture, information technology, small businesses, the hotel industry, trucking, medicine, and technology. Sikh Americans distinguished themselves by fostering respect among all people through faith and service. Today, we work to further the diversity of our community and afford all residents the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences of Sikh Americans.



Mike Braun

Mike Braun

United States Senator

H. RES. 550

Honoring the Sikh American community's celebration of Vaisakhi.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Ms. CHU, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. TITUS, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. BERA of California) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

RESOLUTION

Honoring the Sikh American community's celebration of
Vaisakhi.

Whereas Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over 5 centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century;

Whereas Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25,000,000 adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 500,000 adherents in the United States;

Whereas Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the economic vibrancy of the United States as farmers, engineers, doctors, scientists, and business owners;



City Of Norwich

Mayor's Office

Deberey Hinchey, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

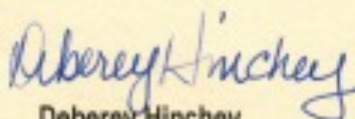
WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and


WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship); and

NOW THEREFORE, I, MAYOR DEBEREY HINCHEY AND NORWICH CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM, PETER ALBERT NYSTROM, ON BEHALF OF THE NORWICH CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, do hereby wish the Sikh American Community a joyous Vaisakhi celebration on April 14, 2017 (Mool Nanakshai Sikh Calendar) and Declare Vaisakhi Day as **National Sikh Day.**

Dated this Third Day of April, 2017


Deberey Hinchey
Mayor




Peter Albert Nystrom
President Pro Tem

RESOLUTION NO. 2294

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOWLER HONORING
THE SIKH COMMUNITY'S CELEBRATION OF VAISAKHI

WHEREAS: Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and today, there are more than 23 million Sikhs worldwide and an estimated 250,000 Americans of Sikh origin, comprising nearly 40 percent of the nation's estimated Sikh population, residing in California alone; and

WHEREAS: Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 100 years, and during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikh Americans worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific & Eastern Railroad; and

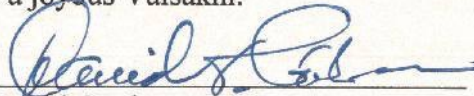
WHEREAS: Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces and have made significant contributions to our great nation in agriculture, trucking, medicine and technology, and have distinguished themselves by fostering greater respect among all people through faith and service; and

WHEREAS: Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS: The Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS: The celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Fowler wishes the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi.


David Cardenas, Mayor

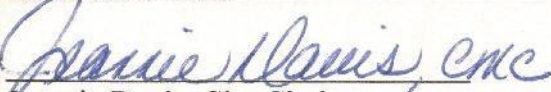
The foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting duly held on March 18, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis & Simonian

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None


Jeannie Davis, City Clerk





The Town of West Hartford
Proclamation

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship),

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT on behalf of the Town Council and the residents of West Hartford, I Shari G. Cantor wish the Sikh American Community a joyous Vaisakhi celebration.

May 12, 2017



Shari G. Cantor, Mayor



City Of Norwich

Mayor's Office

Deberey Hinchey, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and


WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship); and

NOW THEREFORE, I, MAYOR DEBEREY HINCHEY AND NORWICH CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM, PETER ALBERT NYSTROM, ON BEHALF OF THE NORWICH CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, do hereby wish the Sikh American Community a joyous Vaisakhi celebration on April 14, 2017 (Mool Nanakshai Sikh Calendar) and Declare Vaisakhi Day as National Sikh Day.

Dated this Third Day of April, 2017


Deberey Hinchey
Mayor




Peter Albert Nystrom
President Pro Tem

Proclamation

NATIONAL SIKH DAY

April 14, 2017

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse back- grounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

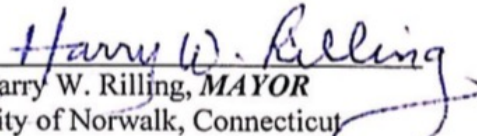
WHEREAS, The Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY W. RILLING, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORWALK, CONNECTICUT do hereby celebrate:

NATIONAL SIKH DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Norwalk, Connecticut to be affixed on 14th day of April, 2017.


Harry W. Rilling, **MAYOR**
City of Norwalk, Connecticut



Proclamation



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA HONORING THE SIKH COMMUNITY'S CELEBRATION OF VAISAKHI

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and today, there are more than 23 million Sikhs worldwide and an estimated 250,000 Americans of Sikh origin, comprising nearly 40 percent of the nation's estimated Sikh population, residing in California alone; and,

WHEREAS, Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 100 years, and during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikh Americans worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific & Eastern Railroad; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces and have made significant contributions to our great nation in agriculture, trucking, medicine and technology, and have distinguished themselves by fostering greater respect among all people through faith and service;

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699;

WHEREAS, The Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Selma wishes the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi.

Presented this 17th day March, 2014

Mayor



FROM THE OFFICE OF
MAYOR ASHLEY SWEARENGIN

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world, and today there are more than 23 million Sikhs worldwide, with an estimated 250,000 Americans of Sikh origin, comprising nearly 40 percent of the nation's estimated Sikh population, residing in California alone; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 100 years, and during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikh Americans worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific & Eastern Railroad; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces, and have made significant contributions to our great nation in agriculture, trucking, medicine and technology, and have distinguished themselves by fostering greater respect among all people through faith and service; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship).

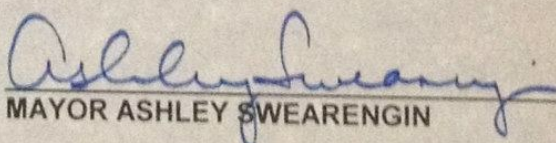
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Mayor Ashley Swearengin, do hereby proclaim April 13 2014, to be:

“VAISAKHI DAY”

in the City of Fresno and wish the Sikh American community a joyous day.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 13th day of April, 2014.


MAYOR ASHLEY SWEARENGIN

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-17

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON
HONORING THE SIKH COMMUNITY'S CELEBRATION OF VAISAKHI**

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and today, there are more than 23 million Sikhs worldwide and an estimated 250,000 Americans of Sikh origin, comprising nearly 40 percent of the nation's estimated Sikh population, residing in California alone; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 100 years, and during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikh Americans worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific & Eastern Railroad; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces and have made significant contributions to our great nation in agriculture, trucking, medicine and technology, and have distinguished themselves by fostering greater respect among all people through faith and service; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh community's celebration of Vaisakhi is traditionally observed annually in April; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Livingston wishes the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi.

Passed and adopted this 1st day of April, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Espinoza and Council Members Mendoza, Samra, Sicairos and Soria
NOES: None
ABSENT: None



CITY OF FORT WAYNE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world, and Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 100 years, with thousands of Sikh Americans contributing on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and in railroad work; and
- WHEREAS,** Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions and walks of life in the Fort Wayne area, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of Northeast Indiana; and
- WHEREAS,** Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and
- WHEREAS,** The Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and
- WHEREAS,** The celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh gurdwaras (houses of worship).
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS C. HENRY,** Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, do hereby proclaim, April 19, 2014, as

VAISAKHI DAY

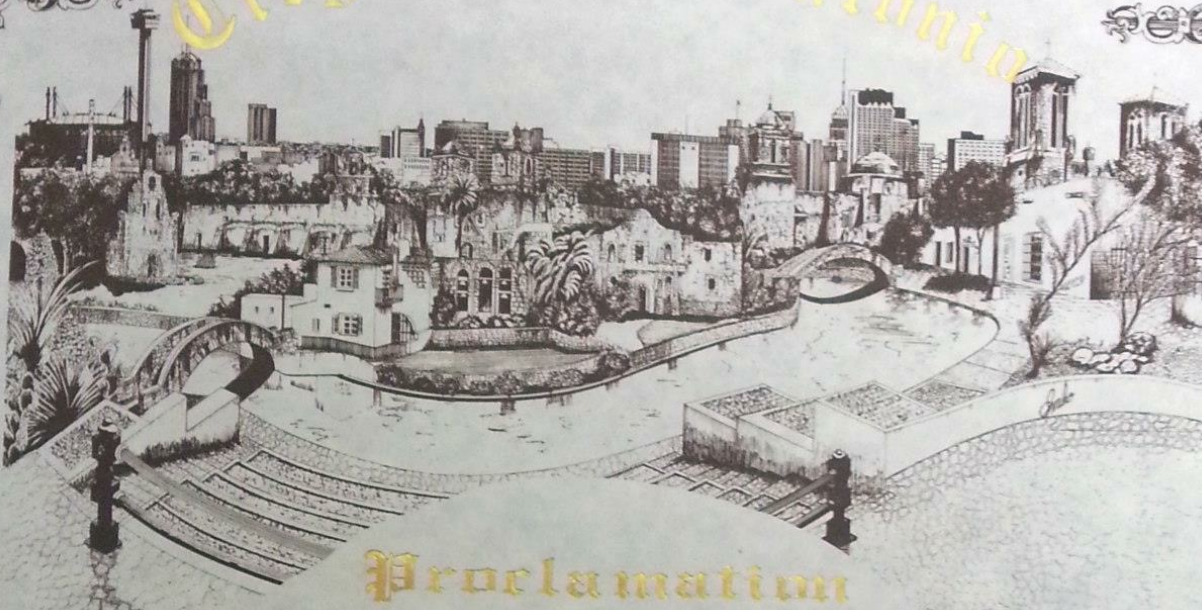
in Fort Wayne, to honor the Sikh community's celebration of Vaisakhi and the contributions of the Sikh community to the Fort Wayne area.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Office of Mayor, City of Fort Wayne, Indiana to be affixed this 26th day of March, 2014.

Thomas C. Henry
Mayor

City of San Antonio



Proclamation

WHEREAS, THE SIKH CENTER OF SAN ANTONIO OF THE SIKH ASSOCIATION OF GURDWARAS IN TEXAS WILL OBSERVE **VAISAKHI DAY** ON APRIL 14, 2013, TO COMMEMORATE THE CREATION OF THE KHALSA; AND

WHEREAS, FOUNDED OVER FIVE CENTURIES AGO, SIKHISM IS THE 5TH LARGEST RELIGION WITH APPROXIMATELY 25 MILLION ADHERENTS FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, OF WHICH NEARLY 500,000 ARE IN THE UNITED STATES; AND

WHEREAS, THE SIKH ASSOCIATION WAS FORMED WITH A MISSION TO STRENGTHEN UNITY, UNDERSTANDING, AND COOPERATION AMONG SIKHS OF TEXAS, AND PROMOTE SIKHI AT A BROADER SPECTRUM IN CONFORMITY WITH THE TEACHINGS OF SIKH GURUS; AND

WHEREAS, VAISAKHI IS A SIGNIFICANT AND HISTORIC HOLIDAY OF SIKHISM, AND THE CELEBRATION INCLUDES PERFORMING SEVA (SELFLESS SERVICE), SUCH AS GIVING OUT FOOD OR COMPLETING ANY LABOR THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

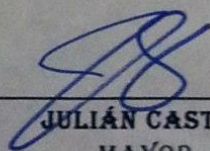
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JULIÁN CASTRO, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, IN RECOGNITION THEREOF, DO HEREBY APRIL 14, 2013, TO BE

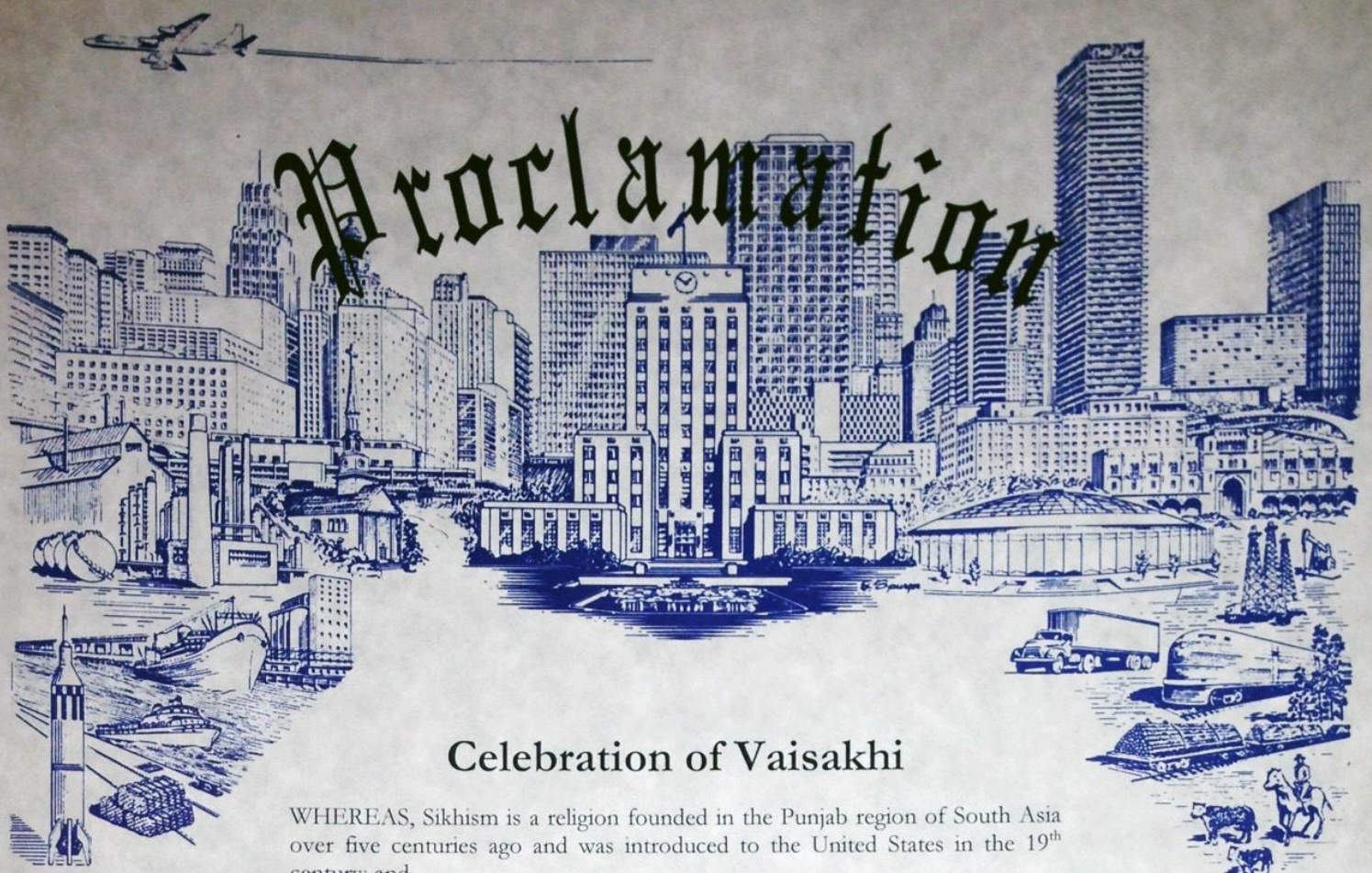
"VAISAKHI DAY"

IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, AND OFFER BEST WISHES TO THE SIKH COMMUNITY OF SAN ANTONIO FOR A JOYOUS CELEBRATION.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO TO BE AFFIXED THIS 14TH DAY OF APRIL 2013.




JULIÁN CASTRO
MAYOR



Celebration of Vaisakhi

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and was introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and,

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and,

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth-largest world religion, with approximately 25 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world and 500,000 in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Sikhs in Houston pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural and economic vibrancy of our great nation; and,

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and,

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (House of Worship).

THEREFORE, I, Annise D. Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim April 14, 2013, as

Celebration of Vaisakhi Day

in Houston, Texas, and wish the Sikh community of Houston a joyous Vaisakhi.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 11th day of April, 2013.

Annise D. Parker

Annise D. Parker
Mayor of the City of Houston

THE CITY OF ELK GROVE
RECOGNIZES, APPRECIATES, AND HONORS

The Elk Grove Sikh Community
Vaisakhi Celebration ~ April 14, 2013

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world and 500,000 in the United States;

WHEREAS, Sikhs in Elk Grove pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of our community and great nation; and


WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship); and

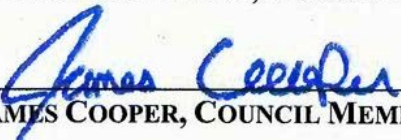
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby wishes the Sikh community of Elk Grove a joyous Vaisakhi, and encourages all citizens to come together, united under a banner of solidarity for our collective peace, security, harmony, and understanding.

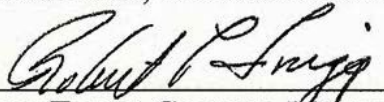
SIGNED this 14th day of April, 2013.


GARY DAVIS, MAYOR

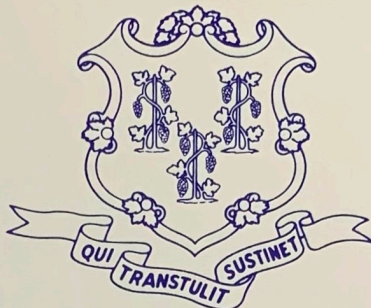

STEVEN M. DETRICK, VICE MAYOR


PATRICK HUME, COUNCIL MEMBER


JAMES COOPER, COUNCIL MEMBER


ROBERT TRIGG, COUNCIL MEMBER

State of Connecticut



General Assembly Official Citation

Introduced by *Senator Catherine A. Osten, 19th Dist.*
Representative Kevin Ryan, 139th Dist.
Representative Emmett D. Riley, 46th Dist.
Representative Doug Dubitsky, 47th Dist.

Be it hereby known to all that:

**The Connecticut General Assembly
offers its sincerest congratulations to:**

Sikh Community of Connecticut

In recognition of

the observance of April 14th as National Sikh Day.

Vaisakhi, one of the most significant days in Sikh history, commemorates the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699 in Sikh Homeland Punjab. Sikhism is the fifth largest ethnic religion based on the belief of one God and the equality of all human beings.

We join with all communities of faith in celebrating this joyous holiday with you.

**The entire membership extends its
very best wishes on this memorable occasion
and expresses the hope for continued success.**

**Given this 21st day of April 2019
at the State Capitol
Hartford, Connecticut**

by

Martin M. Looney
President Pro Tempore

[Signature]
Speaker of the House

[Signature]
Secretary of the State





Denis Law Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

Whereas, Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 500,000 adherents in the United States; and

Whereas, Sikh Americans have made important contributions to the social, economic, and cultural fabric of our city and continue to make strides toward securing religious liberty as patriotic members of the United States Armed Forces; and

Whereas, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the economic vibrancy of the United States as farmers, engineers, doctors, scientists, and business owners; and

Whereas, Renton is one of the most multicultural cities and home to people from all over the world; and

Whereas, Renton prides itself on being a city where people of all faiths and cultures are welcomed, respected, and able to live in harmony with each other; and

Whereas, during the month of April, the Sikh community celebrates Vaisakhi, also known as Khalsa Day, which marks the beginning of the harvest season and the Sikh New Year; and

Whereas, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

Whereas, events such as this celebrate the rich cultures and traditions that contribute to the unique character of our city;

Now, therefore, I, Denis Law, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim April 3, 2017 to be

Sikh Heritage Day

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all citizens to join me in this special observance.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 3rd day of April, 2017.

Denis Law, Mayor
City of Renton, Washington



Mayor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over 5 centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25,000,000 adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 500,000 adherents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the economic vibrancy of the United States as farmers, engineers, doctors, scientists, and business owners; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, Today, the City of Auburn seeks to recognize the diversity of its community and afford all residents the opportunity to better understand, recognize and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences; and

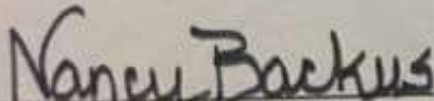
NOW, THEREFORE, I, NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR OF AUBURN, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 14, 2017 AS

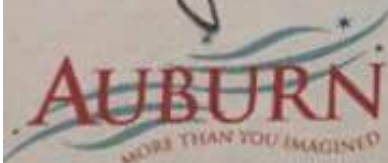
"SIKH HERITAGE DAY"

in the City of Auburn and we wish our Sikh American community a very joyous Vaisakhi.

DATED this 3rd day of April, 2017

CITY OF AUBURN


Nancy Backus, Mayor



Proclamation

Office of the Mayor



- WHEREAS,** Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world today, with more than 23 million Sikhs worldwide, with an estimated 250,000 Americans of Sikh origin, residing in California and comprising forty percent of the Sikh population in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** Sikhs have been part of the American fabric for more than 100 years, with the first Sikh immigrants having labored on railroad construction projects, in lumber mills, and in the agricultural heartlands of the Sacramento, San Joaquin and Imperial Valleys; and
- WHEREAS,** Sikh Americans have pursued diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces, and making significant contributions to this country in the areas of agriculture, trucking, medicine and technology; and
- WHEREAS,** Vaisakhi is one of the most significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699 and honors the celebration through performing selfless service such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh houses of worship, known as Gurdwaras; and
- WHEREAS,** The Sikh religion is based on the belief in the equality of all human beings, the concept of universal brotherhood of man, and that there is One Supreme God;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harvey L. Hall, Mayor of the City of Bakersfield, do hereby proclaim April, 2015, as

"BIRTH OF KHALSA MONTH"

in our city, and encourage all of Bakersfield's citizens to support and encourage the Sikh spirit of collective goodwill and peace, and particularly honor the spirit of Vaisakhi on April 13th.

DATED, at Bakersfield, California, this 25th day of March, 2015.




Mayor of the City of Bakersfield

PROCLAMATION

Town of Hamden
Office of the Mayor
Honoring the Sikh Community of Hamden
Celebration of Vaisakhi
April 21, 2019

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent, ethnic religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States; and

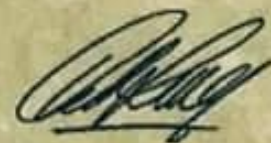
WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces. Eighty Percent of the world Sikh population resides in India occupied Punjab; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship); and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Curt Balzano Leng, Mayor of The Town of Hamden, do hereby wish the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi celebration and I declare April 14, 2019 National Sikh Day in The Town of Hamden.



Curt Balzano Leng, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

*Town of Hamden
Office of the Mayor*

Honoring the Sikh Community of Hamden Celebration of Vaisakhi April 29, 2018

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States; and

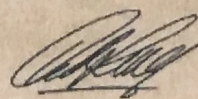
WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship); and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Curt Balzano Leng, Mayor of The Town of Hamden, do hereby wish the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi celebration and I declare Vaisakhi Day, which is celebrated each year on April 14, (Mool Nanakshai Sikh Calendar), Sikh Day in The Town of Hamden and,

“NATIONAL SIKH DAY”



Curt Balzano Leng, Mayor

CITY OF BUENA PARK

Certificate of Recognition

Presented to

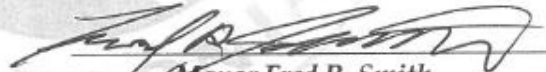
Sikh American Community

on its

Celebration of Vaisakhi

The City Council of the City of Buena Park recognizes Buena Park's Sikh Community on its celebration of Vaisakhi, April 14, 2016. The cultural, ethnic, and religious diversity of our community is what makes Buena Park distinctive, and we appreciate the Sikh Community's numerous contributions to our city. We wish you a very joyous Vaisakhi.

Dated this 12th day of April 2016


Mayor Fred R. Smith



PROCLAMATION

**City of Lathrop Sikh Community
Vaisakhi Celebration held on April 13, 2016**

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the 5th largest world religion with approximately 25 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world and 500,000 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the City of Lathrop pursue diverse professions and walks of life making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of our community and great nation; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (House of Worship); and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Sonny Dhaliwal, Mayor of the City of Lathrop, on behalf of the Lathrop City Council, do hereby wish the Sikh community of Lathrop a joyous Vaisakhi, and encourage all citizens to come together, united in solidarity for our collective peace, security, harmony and understanding.



DATE 4/18/16
Sonny Dhaliwal
MAYOR

CITY OF LATHROP

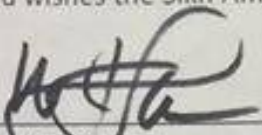
PROCLAMATION

- Whereas, the City of Scottsdale values and supports diversity and inclusion of all our citizens; and
- Whereas, Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world today with more than 250,000 American Sikhs; and
- Whereas, Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy in our community, and have distinguished themselves by fostering a greater respect among all people through faith and service ; and
- Whereas, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history; and
- Whereas, the Sikh religion is based, in part, on the belief in the equality of all humanity and the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing acts of selfless service.

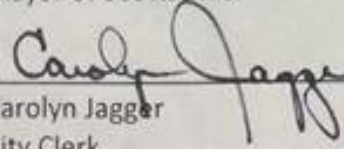
Therefore, I, W. J. "Jim" Lane, Mayor of the City of Scottsdale, Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 14, 2016 as

Sikh Community Day

And wishes the Sikh American community a joyous Vaisakhi.



W.J. "Jim" Lane
Mayor of Scottsdale



Carolyn Jagger
City Clerk



City of San Antonio



Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** THE SIKH COMMUNITY OF SAN ANTONIO WILL OBSERVE VAISAKHI DAY ON APRIL 14, 2016, TO COMMEMORATE THE CREATION OF THE KHALSA; AND
- WHEREAS,** FOUNDED OVER FIVE CENTURIES AGO, SIKHISM IS THE 5TH LARGEST RELIGION WITH APPROXIMATELY 25 MILLION ADHERENTS FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, OF WHICH NEARLY 500,000 ARE IN THE UNITED STATES; AND
- WHEREAS,** SIKH AMERICANS CONTRIBUTE RICHLY TO THE SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND ECONOMIC VIBRANCY OF THE UNITED STATES, AND HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR GREAT NATION; AND
- WHEREAS,** VAISAKHI IS A MOMENTOUS AND HISTORIC HOLIDAY OF SIKHISM, AND THE CELEBRATION INCLUDES PERFORMING SEVA (SELFLESS SERVICE), SUCH AS GIVING OUT FOOD OR COMPLETING ANY LABOR THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, IVY R. TAYLOR, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, IN RECOGNITION THEREOF, DO HEREBY APRIL 14, 2016, TO BE

"VAISAKHI DAY"

IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, AND OFFER BEST WISHES TO THE SIKH COMMUNITY OF SAN ANTONIO FOR A JOYOUS CELEBRATION.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO TO BE AFFIXED THIS 14TH DAY OF APRIL 2016.



Ivy R. Taylor

IVY R. TAYLOR
MAYOR



A PROCLAMATION

With more than 250,000 followers in the United States and thousands of members here in Phoenix, the Sikh faith has made significant social, cultural, and economic contributions to our Phoenix community, adding to our city's diversity and vibrancy.

Sikhs living in Phoenix and the United States pursue a variety of professions and walks of life. These include valued roles in industries like agriculture, trucking, medicine, and technology—all vital components to our growing economy. Moreover, as members of the Sikh community carry out their religion's teachings, which are based upon the equality of all human beings and service to others, they help improve our city and the lives of other Phoenix residents.

Vaisakhi, celebrated on April 14th, is one of the most significant days on the Sikh religious calendar. The holiday commemorates the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs by Guru Gobind Singh initiated in 1699. As part of the Vaisakhi celebration, Sikhs perform "Seva" – or "selfless service" – which includes providing free meals to all visitors to Gurdwaras, Sikh houses of worship.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREG STANTON, Mayor of the City of Phoenix, Arizona do hereby recognize

THE SIKH HOLIDAY OF VAISAKHI

and ask all residents to join me in recognizing Sikh Americans' contribution to our community, and in celebration of this special holiday.

State of New Jersey



THE SENATE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N. J.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

By Senator GORDON and Assemblymen EUSTACE and LAGANA

WHEREAS, The Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey are pleased to honor and salute the Sikh community of the Garden State, esteemed and highly regarded residents, upon the auspicious occasion of Vaisakhi, which will take place on Sunday, April 17, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, On Vaisakhi, which was first observed in 1699, legions of faithful and devoted Sikh followers throughout the United States and the world, including the fifty-thousand adherents within this State, will observe this joyous celebration of equality, justice, and freedom for all through the rich and historic customs of Sikhism; and,

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is an appropriate time for all citizens of this State to affirm and acknowledge these fundamental human rights, as well as those who endeavor to unify all people in the spirit of brotherhood and peace; and,

WHEREAS, Sikhism, which was founded in 1499 and has grown from its humble beginnings to the fifth largest faith tradition in the world today, promotes respect for all individuals, regardless of race, religion, gender, or background, and encourages the practice of such positive values as humility, diligence, generosity, and selflessness in daily life; and,

WHEREAS, It is both proper and fitting for the members of this Legislature to pause in their deliberations to recognize the significance of Vaisakhi, and to commend New Jersey's Sikh community for their steadfast commitment to upholding the worthy ideals of social justice; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

That this Legislature hereby notes the occurrence of Vaisakhi on April 17, 2016, pays tribute to the Sikh Community of New Jersey, and extends sincere best wishes for a happy and festive celebration; and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution be signed by the Senate President and the Assembly Speaker and attested by the Senate Secretary and the Assembly Clerk.

Attest:



Jennifer A. Quaid
Secretary of the Senate



Dana M. Burley
Clerk of the General Assembly

Handwritten signature of Stephen M. Sweeney in black ink.
President of the Senate

Handwritten signature of the Assembly Speaker in black ink.
Speaker of the General Assembly



COUNTY OF BERGEN
New Jersey

Proclamation

In Recognition of the Celebration of Vaisakhi

WHEREAS, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States and with over 50,000 residing in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions in all walks of life, making numerous contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

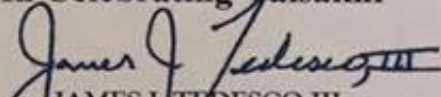
WHEREAS, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

WHEREAS, the universal nature of the Sikh way of life reaches out to people of all faiths and cultural backgrounds, encouraging us to see beyond our differences and to work together for world peace and harmony; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT
I, JAMES J. TEDESCO III,
EXECUTIVE OF THE COUNTY OF BERGEN
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
DO HEREBY JOIN THE SIKH COMMUNITIES IN BERGEN COUNTY

In Celebrating Vaisakhi


JAMES J. TEDESCO III
Bergen County Executive



THE CITY OF ELK GROVE
RECOGNIZES, APPRECIATES, AND HONORS

*The Elk Grove Sikh Community
Vaisakhi Celebration ~ April 14, 2016*

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion with approximately 25 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world and 500,000 in the United States; and

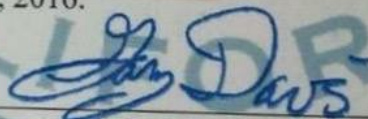
WHEREAS, Sikhs in Elk Grove pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of our community and great nation; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

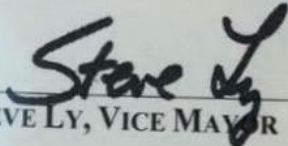
WHEREAS, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (Houses of Worship).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elk Grove hereby wishes the Sikh community of Elk Grove a joyous Vaisakhi, and encourages all citizens to come together, united under a banner of solidarity for our collective peace, security, harmony, and understanding.

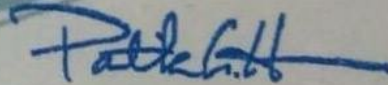
SIGNED this 27th day of April, 2016.



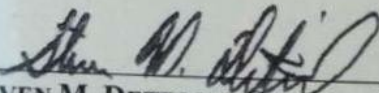
GARY DAVIS, MAYOR



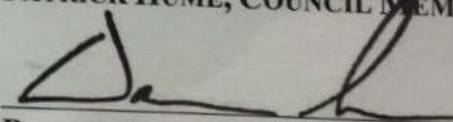
STEVE LY, VICE MAYOR



PATRICK HUME, COUNCIL MEMBER



STEVEN M. DETRICK, COUNCIL MEMBER



DARREN SUEN, COUNCIL MEMBER

Town Council

Michael A. Riccio Chairman
Cheryl Lounsbury Vice Chairman
John N. Barry
Paul W. Champagne
Tom Lombardi
Dawn A. Micell
Christopher J. Palmieri
Edward S. Pocock, III
Victoria Triano



Town Manager

GARRY BRUMBACK
(860) 276-6200
FAX (860) 628-4727

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

Be it hereby known to all that:

The Southington Town Council hereby offers its
sincerest congratulations to:

National Sikh Day

IN RECOGNITION OF

Whereas, Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and

Whereas, Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States; and

Whereas, Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United Armed Forces and

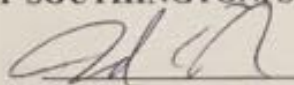
Whereas, Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in the Sikh history, commemoration the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and

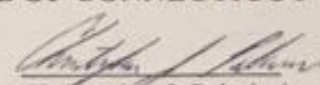
Whereas, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and

Whereas, the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras (House of Worship); and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Michael A. Riccio, Southington Town Council Chairman, along with Christopher J. Palmieri, Southington Town Councilman on behalf of the entire Southington Town Council, hereby wish the Sikh American Community a joyous Vaisakhi celebration on April 14th, 2018 (Mool Nanakshai Sikh Calendar) and Declare Vaisakhi Day as **National Sikh Day**.

TOWN OF SOUTHINGTON, STATE OF CONNECTICUT


Michael A. Riccio
Chairman


Christopher J. Palmieri
Councilman

"City of Progress"



City of Holyoke Proclamation

WHEREAS: *Sikhism is a religion founded in the Punjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to the United States in the 19th century; and*

WHEREAS: *Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including 700,000 adherents in the United States; and*

WHEREAS: *Sikhs in the United States pursue diverse professions and walks of life making rich contributions to the social, cultural and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces; and*

WHEREAS: *Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and*

WHEREAS: *The Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and the equality of all human beings; and*

WHEREAS: *The celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwara (Houses of Worship).*

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT *I, Mayor Alex B. Morse, do hereby wish the Sikh American Community a joyous Vaisakhi celebration and Declare Vaisakhi Day as*

“NATIONAL SIKH DAY”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of the City of Holyoke to be affixed.*

Signed: _____

Alex B. Morse, Mayor



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, Massachusetts and our Nation are at once blessed and enriched by the unparalleled diversity of our residents; and

Whereas, The Sikhs, who originated in Punjab, South Asia, first entered Massachusetts in the early 1900s; and

Whereas, The first Sikh Gurdwara in Massachusetts was established in 1968. The community - known as the New England Sikh Study Group- expanded steadily, eventually receiving nonprofit status in 1979. In October 2017 they have moved into a new 21,000 sq. ft Gurdwara (place of worship) in Westborough, Massachusetts; and

Whereas, the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God and universal equality; their teachings are enshrined in their holy book "Guru Granth Sahib"; and

Whereas, The Sikh American community in Massachusetts has led and participated in many interfaith and charitable endeavors benefiting all residents of Massachusetts, with a particular emphasis on helping homeless populations and others in need; and

Whereas, The Sikh community of Massachusetts has always been involved in efforts aiming to enhance understanding and respect among people of different religions by leading and participating in interfaith thanksgiving prayers at various places of worship, inviting various faith leaders and members of their congregations to Sikh Gurdwaras, and going to places of worship of other faiths and denominations to share prayers and services and educate each other about respective faiths, history, traditions scriptures, and underlying beliefs and values; and

Whereas, Many industries in Massachusetts, especially the retail, automobile repair and service, food, have significantly benefited from the contributions of the Sikh community,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim April 14th, 2018, to be,

SIKH HERITAGE DAY

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this fourteenth day of April, in the year two thousand and eighteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-first.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in black ink.

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in black ink.

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of William Francis Galvin in black ink.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Office of the Mayor

CITY OF NEW YORK



Proclamation

WHEREAS: NEW YORK'S STRENGTH IS OWED IN LARGE PART TO THE MANY DIVERSE FAITH COMMUNITIES THAT CALL OUR CITY HOME. THEIR CELEBRATIONS ARE SHARED WITH RESIDENTS OF ALL BACKGROUNDS AND BELIEFS, ADDING TO THE RICH FABRIC OF THE FIVE BOROUGHS. OUR VIBRANT SIKH COMMUNITY HAS LONG BROUGHT NEW YORKERS TOGETHER FOR TIMES OF FELLOWSHIP AND WORSHIP, AND IT HAS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN FORGING A PATH TO A STRONGER TOMORROW FOR OUR CITY. ON THE OCCASION OF VAISAKHI, I AM PROUD TO JOIN IN RECOGNIZING THE NUMEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS OF SIKH NEW YORKERS.

WHEREAS: A TIME OF GENEROSITY AND NEW BEGINNINGS, VAISAKHI IS A SPRING FESTIVAL THAT COMMEMORATES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KHALSA, AN IMPORTANT SIKH COMMUNITY. THIS JOYOUS HOLIDAY IS A WONDERFUL WAY TO SHOWCASE THE RICH HISTORY AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT THAT UNITES SIKH AMERICANS THROUGHOUT NEW YORK AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY. TODAY'S EVENT IS ALSO A TERRIFIC OPPORTUNITY TO RECOGNIZE THE SIKH COALITION - WHOSE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION, THE SIKH PROJECT, IS ON DISPLAY TONIGHT - AND UNITED SIKHS FOR THEIR TREMENDOUS EFFORTS THAT ARE HELPING TO BUILD A BRIGHTER, MORE EQUITABLE FUTURE FOR PEOPLE IN THE FIVE BOROUGHS AND FAR BEYOND.

WHEREAS: NEW YORK PROMISES TO BE A CITY FOR EVERYONE, REGARDLESS OF BACKGROUND OR BELIEFS, AND MY ADMINISTRATION IS COMMITTED TO DOING ALL THAT WE CAN TO ENSURE THAT EVERY NEW YORKER CAN WORSHIP AS THEY CHOOSE AND SHARE THEIR CHERISHED FESTIVITIES AND CELEBRATIONS WITH ALL PEOPLE. OBSERVING VAISAKHI REMINDS US OF HOW OUR MANY DIVERSE FAITH COMMUNITIES ARE INVALUABLE PARTNERS IN EMPOWERING AND UPLIFTING OUR RESIDENTS. I AM PROUD TO APPLAUD THE SIKH COALITION, UNITED SIKHS, AND ALL THOSE IN ATTENDANCE TONIGHT AS WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO CREATING ONE CITY, WHERE WE CAN ALL RISE TOGETHER.

NOW THEREFORE, I, BILL DE BLASIO, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM SATURDAY, APRIL 14TH, 2018 IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK AS:

"VAISAKHI CELEBRATION DAY"



Bill de Blasio



Canada
Province of British Columbia
A Proclamation

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS British Columbia is a culturally diverse province comprised of many people and communities, and

WHEREAS Sikhs have been an influential and impactful part of British Columbia since the turn of the nineteenth century. They have endured many hardships while contributing to the growth and success of our province, and

WHEREAS in April, Sikhs around the world celebrate Vaisakhi, the day the Khalsa was created, which cemented the disciplines and traditions of the Sikh faith. British Columbia is home to the largest Vaisakhi celebration in North America, and one of the largest outside India, and

WHEREAS by proclaiming the month of April as Sikh Heritage Month, the Province of British Columbia recognizes the important contributions that Sikh Canadians have made, and continue to make to British Columbia's social, economic, political and cultural fabric. Sikh Heritage Month is an opportunity to celebrate the aspirations of all Sikh Canadians and develop a greater appreciation and educate future generations about a rich, unique and diverse heritage;

NOW KNOW YE THAT, We do by these presents proclaim and declare that April 2018 shall be known as

“Sikh Heritage Month”

in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this twenty-second day of March, two thousand eighteen and in the sixty-seventh year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.



Attorney General
(counter signature for the Great Seal)



Lieutenant Governor



Dutchess County Executive

PROCLAMATION

April 9, 2019

WHEREAS, Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 100 years, and during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikh Americans worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific & Eastern Railroad; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and today, there are more than 30 million Sikhs worldwide and an estimated 500,000 Sikh Americans; and

WHEREAS, Vaisakhi is one of the most historically significant days of the year for Sikhs and is celebrated on April 14, 2019; and

WHEREAS, 2019 is the 550th birthday of the first of ten gurus and founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanak. This day is celebrated for Sikhs in Dutchess County and worldwide as Guru Nanak's Gurpurab and is one of the most important dates in the Sikh calendar; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions, and make rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces and significant contributions to our great nation in agriculture, information technology, small businesses, the hotel industry, trucking, medicine, and technology; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans distinguished themselves by fostering respect among all people through faith and service; and

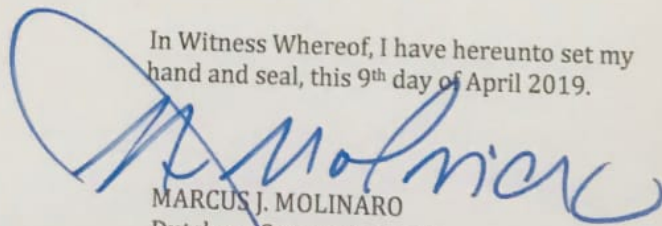
WHEREAS, Dutchess County is committed to educating citizens about the world's religions, the value of religious diversity, tolerance grounded in First Amendment principles, a culture of mutual understanding, and the diminution of violence; and

WHEREAS, today, Dutchess County seeks to further the diversity of its community and afford all residents the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences of Sikh Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARCUS J. MOLINARO, County Executive of Dutchess County, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as "*Sikh Awareness Month*" in Dutchess County.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 9th day of April 2019.


MARCUS J. MOLINARO
Dutchess County Executive

STATE OF DELAWARE



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROCLAMATION IN OBSERVANCE OF SIKH AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION MONTH

Whereas, Sikhs have been living in Delaware and the United States for more than 100 years; and

Whereas, with more than 23 million Sikhs worldwide and approximately 250,000 Sikhs in America, Sikhism is the 5th largest religion; and

Whereas, Sikh Americans contribute to the our state and country by bringing social, cultural, and economic vibrancy to our communities; and

Whereas, Sikh Americans have earned respect and appreciation through exceptional service to their communities; and

Whereas, the State of Delaware seeks to further the diversity of its community and afford Delawareans the opportunity to better appreciate the rich history of Sikh Americans.

*Now, Therefore, We, John Carney, Governor,
and Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor,
do hereby declare April 2019, as*

SIKH AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION MONTH

in the State of Delaware, and urge all citizens to recognize the contributions of Sikhs in the State of Delaware.



John C. Carney
John C. Carney
Governor

Bethany A. Hall-Long
Bethany A. Hall-Long
Lieutenant Governor

17-2612
Number

Vaisakhi Celebration

U.S SENATE BY
INTRODUCING
S. RES 469



SENATE FLOOR
Vaisakhi Celebration



SENATOR PAT
TOOMEY



U.S SENATOR CHRIS
MURPHY
S.RES 469

NEWSLETTER



**SENATOR MURPHY OF CONNECTICUT INTRODUCED
SENATE RESOLUTIONS S.RES 469 AND
SENATOR TOOMEY SPOKE ON SENATE
FLOOR TO HONOR THE SIKH FESTIVAL OF
VAISAKHI (KHALSA SIRJANA DIVAS-APRIL
14th)**

Swaranjit Singh
Khalsa and other
members of Sikh
Sewak Society
International
Thanking Senator
Murphy's Office.



