

**PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, freedom of religion holds the distinction as a cherished right and a foundational value upon which the laws and ethics of the United States are based; and*

*WHEREAS, Muslims around the world, and in the United States specifically, constitute a racially and culturally diverse group that is bound together by a shared belief in diversity as strength and unity as power; and*

*WHEREAS, Muslims make up more than 25 percent of the global population and Islam is the world's fastest growing religion; and*

*WHEREAS, the Muslim American community provides support and assistance to people throughout the community through charitable contributions, social activism, and community groups; and*

*WHEREAS, while Muslims make substantial contributions to nearly every aspect of society, including academia, law, business, healthcare, military service, and more; and*

*WHEREAS, Olympia is home to a vibrant Muslim community that plays an essential role in enriching the unique character of our city and state; and*

*WHEREAS, the Islamic Center of Olympia welcomes more than 40 ethnicities to worship in community together, which includes immigrants and refugees; and*

*WHEREAS, we acknowledge that the history and contributions of Muslim Americans in our country are often neglected or defaced by prejudice, discrimination, xenophobia, and islamophobia; and*

*WHEREAS, on this occasion, the City of Olympia recommits itself to standing against hate and injustice in all forms, and to combatting anti-Muslim rhetoric through awareness, education, community, and meaningful action; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Olympia City Council, does hereby proclaim the month of July as*

**MUSLIM AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

*In the City of Olympia and our community joins those of all faiths and backgrounds in celebrating our Muslim friends and neighbors and the cultural and religious heritage of the Muslim community.*

*SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 9<sup>TH</sup>  
DAY OF JULY 2024*

*OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL*

*Dontae Payne,  
Mayor*