

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

WHEREAS, many Azorean Portuguese immigrants migrated to Humboldt County, California in the early 1900s, and have since been a vital part of the economy and cultural diversity of the community; and

WHEREAS, in 1924 members of the Portuguese community established an association in Ferndale, California, named the Eel River Valley Portuguese Hall Association, to maintain community connection amongst its members, and to preserve the culture of the Azorean Portuguese people in the Eel River Valley of Humboldt County; and

WHEREAS, many of the families who have lived in the community and contributed to the association, through their presence, donation, and volunteerism, continue to live in this community and carry on the celebrations commemorating the cultural, historical, and religious festivities of the Azorean Portuguese people; and

WHEREAS, the Festa Do Espirito Santo, first celebrated on the island of Terceira, Azores in 1492, memorializes the historical, cultural, and religious events involving the story of Queen Isabella's charitable acts of feeding the poor in Portugal during the famine of the 14th century; and

WHEREAS, the Portuguese community continues this act in her honor by welcoming all community members to a free community meal of traditional Sopa do Espirito Santo, Alcatra, Linguica, and Sweet Bread, on the weekend of the celebration; and

WHEREAS, the people of the local Azorean Portuguese community crown a Queen, Little Queen, and full court to commemorate the act of Queen Isabella crowning a common person to reign over the festa, celebrating the end of the famine.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Humboldt Board of Supervisors recognizes the Azorean Portuguese community, and its unique culture, and commemorates the 100th Festa Do Espirito Santo, to be held on the 18th and 19th of May 2024 in Ferndale California.

DATED: APRIL 23, 2024

Rex Bohn, Chair

