WHEREAS, September 15 through October 15 has been declared as Hispanic Heritage Month in honor of the role that Hispanics have played and continue to play in the labor movement, economic, cultural, and social fabric of our nation. The observation of Hispanic contributions first began in 1968 as ‘Hispanic Heritage Week’ under President Lyndon Johnson. It was later expanded in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan to cover the 30-day period from September 15 to October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988 upon adoption of Public Law 100-402; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic people make up a significant portion of the labor force represented by OPEIU Local 29 as well as the entire labor movement and the United States, working as elected officers, shop stewards, board members, elected officials, CEOs, small business owners, entrepreneurs, and homemakers who provide leadership, guidance, and support for the values which strengthen our local unions, the labor movement and national economies; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics of many nationalities in OPEIU provide unique leadership skills and serve as exceptional role models in all areas of the labor movement, distinguishing themselves as effective leaders who create jobs, negotiate pay wages and benefits, and serve as a positive force throughout their shops, the labor movement, our government, communities and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic members, despite many risks and personal sacrifices, continue to serve as inspirations to the labor movement, their families, employees, and to the community at large; and their successes provide inspiring stories for all to emulate; and

WHEREAS, when Hispanics succeed, so too does our Local, the labor movement, our cities, our states, and our nation. Therefore, the potential of all Hispanics should be limited only by the breadth of their dreams.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, RACIAL, JUSTICE COMMITTEE OF OPEIU, LOCAL 29, hereby is on record as recognizing September 15 to October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month to honor the many accomplishments and contributions of members of the Hispanic community, and to encourage all members to celebrate and support the people and shops that make OPEIU Local 29 unique and diverse. This Resolution shall take form and effect, after its adoption.