

**Yolo County
Board of Supervisors**

Resolution No. 23-43

Declaring March 31, 2023, as Cesar Estrada Chavez Day

WHEREAS, Cesar Estrada Chavez was born March 31, 1927 in Yuma, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, when severe drought forced the loss of the Chavez ranch, the family moved to California to pick crops when Cesar was ten years old; and

WHEREAS, although Cesar Estrada Chavez grew to manhood laboring in farms and fields without the opportunity to continue his formal education past eighth grade, the invaluable lessons he learned through the adversities he faced instilled in him a desire to change the harsh conditions that his family and fellow migrant workers endured; and

WHEREAS, at age twenty-five, Cesar Estrada Chavez joined the Community Service Organization (CSO), a Latino civil rights group that he would later head as its national director, and feeling that more concerted efforts were needed on behalf of farmworkers, he left CSO and founded the National Farm Workers Association in 1962, which would eventually become the United Farm Workers of America (UFW) AFL-CIO; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Estrada Chavez led his organization through non-violence and with humility, hope and determination in the face of daily injustice and hardship; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Estrada Chavez was concerned not only about farmworkers, but also gave national voice to environmental protection and consumers in the use of pesticides on food products; and

WHEREAS, Yolo County implemented a variety of programming aimed at supporting the local agricultural workforce, including the creation of agricultural workforce convening, using a pool of Rural Innovation Funding to support agricultural workers at new County Service Centers and Satellite Offices, and offering an extensive array of COVID supports for the agricultural community; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2000, the State of California did recognize the birthday of Cesar E. Chavez as a holiday for state workers and established the “Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning” to be celebrated throughout California communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaims and recognizes March 31, 2023, as the birthday of farm labor leader Cesar Estrada Chavez, and encourages all County staff and residents to remember the importance of agricultural workers in our local economy.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of March 2023 by the following vote:

AYES: Frerichs, Sandy, Provenza, Barajas, Villegas.

Oscar Villegas, Chair
Yolo County Board of Supervisors