

# *Hmong Heritage Month*

*December 15, 2015*

*Presented by Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, Council President Pro Tem Marti Emerald,  
and Councilmember Chris Cate*

**WHEREAS**, the **Hmong** community has been a part of San Diego's rich cultural history for the last 40 years; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the **Hmong** are an indigenous people who can be found along the mountainous regions of Laos, China, Thailand, or northern Vietnam; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, throughout their limited recorded history, the **Hmong** have been identified through their arabesque quilts, customs, traditions, and survival instincts, but mostly through their unique language; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, during the Vietnam War, **Hmong** farmers gladly laid down their axes and machetes in exchange for rifles in order to provide aid to the U.S. as ground troops, which proved deadly as thousands of lives and some clans were lost; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, as the older generations pass on, there is a fear that the knowledge of the culture, tradition, and heritage of the **Hmong** will slowly fade away, which is why the time is now to promulgate their heritage; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the **Hmong** celebrate one festive holiday worldwide every year in the month of December, the Hmong New Year, where traditional clothing and quilts are shown off, folksongs are sung, thanks are given to ancestors, there are celebrations and feasts on the fall harvest, and the New Year is welcomed with good health and well wishes; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT PROCLAIMED**, by the Mayor and the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby declare December 2015, to be "**Hmong Heritage Month**" in the City of San Diego.