

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ELK GROVE, CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION NO. 32, 2016-2017

**ESTABLISHMENT OF SIKH AMERICAN AWARENESS
AND APPRECIATION MONTH**

WHEREAS, California and our nation are enriched by the unparalleled diversity of our residents; and

WHEREAS, Among this unprecedented diversity in California, there reside Americans of Sikh origin whose population comprises nearly 40 percent of the nation's estimated Sikh population; and

WHEREAS, Sikh immigrants have resided in California for more than a century, with the first Sikh immigrants having labored on railroad construction projects, in lumber mills, and in the agricultural heartlands of the Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Imperial valleys; and

WHEREAS, While Sikh Americans have distinguished themselves in numerous areas of endeavor, they have demonstrated particular success in the areas of agriculture, trucking, medicine, and in the creation of small, family-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans have served as members of Congress, mayors, judges, city council members, soldiers, and scientists; and

WHEREAS, The Sikh and Punjabi American communities of California continue to make important contributions to our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, The Sikh Council of Central California, representing a dozen main Sikh temples in the Fresno County area, actively takes part in the Multifaith Exchange and Interfaith Alliance meetings and seminars to share their monotheistic religion and the tenets of their faith, and the important role that Sikh Americans play in furthering mutual understanding and respect among all peoples;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Elk Grove Unified School District that November 2016 is designated as Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Elk Grove Unified School District recognizes and acknowledges the significant contributions made by Californians of Sikh heritage to our state, and by adoption of this resolution seeks to afford all students the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history of Sikh Americans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to every school in the District.

Christopher R. Hoffman
Secretary to the Board of Education