

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**HMONG AMERICAN DAY
RESOLUTION NO 77, 2022-2023**

**Recognizing May 14, 2023, as HMONG AMERICAN DAY in the
ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, May 14, 2023, marks the forty-eighth anniversary of the fall of Long Cheng, a United States-Hmong airbase in Laos during the Laotian Civil War where the Hmong who were allied with the United States fought together in Laos against the North Vietnamese, also known as the Secret War from 1961-1975; and

WHEREAS, the Hmong are an ethnically and culturally diverse people originally from Southern China and who migrated throughout Southeast Asia, specifically Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, approximately 30,000-40,000 Hmong soldiers were killed during the Secret War which included many Hmong soldiers who were under 18 years old; the United States helped Hmong refugees flee to Thailand on May 14, 1975. More than 100,000 Hmong refugees came to the United States starting in December 1975; and

WHEREAS, during the Vietnam War, the Central Intelligence Agency and United States Armed Forces recruited, organized, trained, and assisted Hmong forces in supporting the American war effort against the North Vietnamese. When the United States withdrew from the war in the early 1970s, the Hmong faced harsh retribution causing many of them to flee out of Laos to escape genocide. May 14, 1975, was the last airlift for the evacuation of Hmong soldiers and families from Laos to a refugee camp in Thailand; and

WHEREAS, May 14 (Hmong American Day) is a time to remember and honor the Hmong people's history, stories, and contributions to the Vietnam War.

WHEREAS, like many immigrant groups before them, Hmong refugees resettled to the United States to escape war and persecution, to find opportunities, and to better their lives and the lives of their children; and

WHEREAS, many Hmong refugees and their families immigrated to the United States, and today over 40,000 of the more than 325,000 Hmong Americans are residents of Sacramento County; and

WHEREAS, Hmong Americans are helping build a vibrant and diverse California, contributing

socially, politically, and economically to our State, many of the Hmong have become America's success stories from having nothing to becoming teachers, engineers, nurses, doctors, lawyers, business owners, professional athletes, firefighters, soldiers, elected officials, and more. Today recognizes and celebrates Hmong Americans' history, culture, and contributions to California.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Elk Grove Unified School District Board of Education, do hereby recognize May 14, 2023, as HMONG AMERICAN DAY.

Date

CHRISTOPHER R. HOFFMAN, SUPERINTENDENT and
SECRETARY to the GOVERNING BOARD of
ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT