

Washoe County, Nevada

~PROCLAMATION~

WHEREAS, César Estrada Chávez was born March 31, 1927, on a small farm near Yuma, Arizona, that his grandfather homesteaded in the 1880's; and

WHEREAS, In 1962, César Chávez moved his wife and eight children to Delano, California, where he founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), later to become the United Farm Workers of America; and

WHEREAS, From the beginning, César Chávez adhered to the principles of non-violence practiced by M.K. Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to support the end of suffering for farm workers and their families; and

WHEREAS, César Chávez conducted multiple 25 to 36-day fasts to reaffirm the United Farm Workers' commitment to non-violence as a necessary and effective practice to maintain self-respect while supporting their cause; and

WHEREAS, On August 8, 1994, César Estrada Chávez became the second Mexican American to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the United States. The award was presented posthumously by President Bill Clinton; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 301 was unanimously passed by the Nevada Legislature, then signed into law on May 18, 2009, the Governor shall now proclaim every March 31 as César Chávez Day in Nevada;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim March 31, 2016 as

César Chávez Day

ADOPTED this 15th day of March, 2016.

Kitty Jung, Chair
Washoe County Commission

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