
THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 185
Author: Macedo (R) and Aguiar-Curry (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/27/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Portuguese Heritage Month: Day of Portugal: Day of the Azores

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares the month of June 2026 to be Portuguese Heritage Month and would recognize June 10, 2026, as the Day of Portugal and May 25, 2026, as the Day of the Azores.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The first Portuguese settlers came to California from the Azores Islands in the early 19th century. Waves of Azorean immigrants moved to California just before and during the 20th century, with the first wave arriving around the turn of the century, followed by the second and largest wave between 1958 and 1976, each contributing substantially to establishing agricultural operations, especially dairy, livestock, vegetables, fruit farms, and the tuna industry in southern California.
- 2) California has long been a destination for immigrants from the Azores Islands, creating enduring cultural ties. Today, more than 350,000 persons of Portuguese heritage live in California, approximately 90% of whom are of Azorean descent.
- 3) The California Portuguese American Coalition, established in 2016, fosters civic engagement and public service among Portuguese Americans.
- 4) Cultural traditions such as the Portuguese Holy Ghost Festival and other community celebrations remain vital expressions of heritage and identity in California.
- 5) Portuguese Americans have enriched California's cultural landscape, including contributions to the arts and entertainment industry, the most notable of whom

are Mary Astor, Katy Perry, Tom Hanks, Joe Perry, Nuno Bettencourt, Steve Perry, and Sara Bareilles.

- 6) California maintains a sister-state relationship with the Autonomous Region of the Azores, fostering collaboration in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, tourism, technology, and cultural exchange.

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FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/8/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/8/26)

None received

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6/10/26 16:17:28

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