RESOLUTION DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 15 AS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated in the United States from September 15 to October 15th in recognition of the contributions made by Hispanic/Latino Americans to the United States and to celebrate their heritage and culture; and

WHEREAS, as of 2013, the Census Bureau estimated over 20,000 members of the Latino population represent over 7.5% of Greensboro residents, making the Latino community one of the fastest growing ethnic minorities in Greensboro; and

WHEREAS, Greensboro is now home to people from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Spain, Uruguay, Venezuela; and

WHEREAS, Latinos have made contributions to the future of Greensboro through their work in the fields of education, healthcare, business and finance, law enforcement, legal. agriculture, technology, arts, aviation, construction, athletics, science, hospitality, journalism, business, entrepreneurship and most notably the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, while many Latino residents in Greensboro are prospering, some Latinos struggle every day to overcome significant challenges such as access to higher education and healthcare, wage theft, substandard work conditions, safe housing, unemployment, transportation issues, language barriers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Greensboro will continue to find innovative solutions for the unique needs of the Latino community such as the re-establishment of the Human Relation Commission's International Advisory Committee, the Welcoming Greensboro Initiative, and the FaithAction ID Initiative launched with support of the Greensboro Police Department, which will ensure that all residents of Greensboro benefit as a result; and

WHEREAS, the Latino Community Coalition will celebrate and recognize the contributions of our diverse Latino community at the Notable Latinos of the Triad event on October 15, 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

That it hereby designates the period from September 15 through October 15, 2015, as Hispanic Heritage Month in Greensboro.