

CITY OF FRESNO

Office of Councilmember Esmeralda Soria

Is hereby presented to:

Leo Zavala

WHEREAS, The City of Fresno honors Leo Zavala; a proud immigrant, entrepreneur, and American, whose dedication to serving the interpretation needs of the community as a whole has earned him national recognition; and

WHEREAS, In the year 1964, Mr. Zavala enlisted into the U.S. Army serving in California and Korea until 1967. Following his military service, Mr. Zavala returned to Fresno to raise his family and, shortly thereafter became a U.S. citizen; and

WHEREAS, In the year 1977, Mr. Zavala made a commitment to starting an interpreting business. The interpreting agency would be the first in Fresno; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zavala initially set out to serve the Spanish-speaking community at large, he quickly diversified by offering interpreters for languages in Chinese, Japanese, Hmong, Punjabi, and many other non-native languages. In 1980 Mr. Zavala's company, Certified Interpreting Service, was contracted by the County of Fresno to be the sole provider of Spanish language interpreting for the Fresno County Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, In the year 1981, Mr. Zavala became one of four interpreters from California commissioned by the State Personnel Board of California to prepare the first state exam used to attain a certification for interpreting. He then administered the exam, enabling individuals in San Francisco and Sacramento to become the first group of certified interpreters in their respective cities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Fresno Mayor and City Council does hereby recognize the importance of Mr. Zavala's contributions to the community of Fresno and the State of California and does further proclaim August 15th, 2019 to be:

“Leo Zavala Day”

in the City of Fresno

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and
Affixed the seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 15th day of August 2019.*

ESMERALDA SORIA, Councilmember, District 1

LEE BRAND, Honorable Mayor

PAUL CAPRIOGlio, Council President, District 4

MIGUEL ARIAS, Council Vice-President, District 3

LUIS CHAVEZ, Councilmember, District 5

GARRY BREDEFELD, Councilmember, District 6

NELSON ESPARZA, Councilmember, District 7