WHEREAS, in 1968 Congress created Hispanic Heritage Week, and in 1988, it was extended to a month-long observance to honor the achievements of Hispanics; and

WHEREAS, since the 16th Century, the Hispanic influence has enriched the American culture in business, law, politics, education, community service, the arts, government, military service, and many other fields; and

WHEREAS, every generation of Hispanic Americans have contributed to the advancement of freedom at home and abroad and in the protection of our homeland; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a long and storied history of welcoming immigrants, which has given it a significant advantage over the rest of the world; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans, whose passion and love of family, faith, hard work, and determination, have been a part of Northampton's spirit and diversity which continues to flourish in our community today; and so

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor David J. Narkiewicz, hereby proclaim September 15 to October 15, 2017 as "Hispanic Heritage Month" in the City of Northampton and encourage everyone to acknowledge and applaud the generations of Hispanic Americans who have enriched our community and those that will continue to build a bright and hopeful future for themselves, their families and all of us who call Northampton home.

In Witness whereof, I have set my hand and imprinted the City seal, this 15th day of September in the year 2017.

Mayor David J. Narkiewicz