



# COUNTY LEGISLATURE JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Celebrating and Amplifying Hispanic Heritage Month**

**(Kansas City, MO)** – Legislator Manny Abarca is proud to join the nation in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to honor and recognize the countless contributions of Hispanic people to our country's culture, history, and society. Hispanic Heritage Month, observed from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>, is a time when we come together to celebrate the diverse backgrounds and traditions of Hispanic and Latine communities.

This Hispanic Heritage Month, Legislator Abarca passed a resolution recognizing the efforts, sacrifices and contributions of the Hispanic community in Jackson County and throughout the country. The resolution calls for the Hispanic Heritage Month flag designed by José Garza to be flown at both the Downtown Courthouse and the Independence Courthouse to increase visibility and recognition of this month.

Today, we fly the Hispanic Heritage Month flag and give credit to those who's work resulted in the creation of such flag. Prior to 2023 a unique designated Hispanic Heritage month flag did not exist and as such Elisa Bender, Hispanic Festival, Inc. Board member in St. Louis began the work to create and establish a unique Hispanic Heritage Month flag to be flown during Hispanic Heritage Month at the St. Louis City Hall. Through the involvement and collaboration of the Reginal Arts Commission, Hispanic leaders focus group and artist José Garza the Hispanic Month Flag was created.

"Hispanic Heritage Month serves as a reminder of the strength that comes from our diversity," said Legislator Abarca, emphasizing the importance of unity and understanding among all communities and peoples. "We must continue to build bridges between different communities and celebrate the shared values that make our county and nation stronger."

Stay tuned for office updates and a calendar of events recognizing and celebrating the Hispanic community in Jackson County. Throughout the month Legislator Abarca encourages residents of Jackson County to participate in local events and festivities.

Learn more about the Hispanic Heritage Month flag: <https://www.hispanicheritageflag.com/symbolism-of-the-flag>

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*Legislator Manuel "Manny" Abarca IV represents Jackson County's 1st District, In-District. The 1st District is located along the northwestern and western border of Jackson County. The 1st District contains a wide range of neighborhoods including the booming downtown of Kansas City, MO. Legislator Abarca is the Chair of the Budget Committee, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) Committee, and the Health and Environment Committee. Legislator Abarca also sits on the Anti-Crime Committee, Rules Committee, Inter-governmental Affairs Committee, and Housing and Homelessness Committee.*

*Harry S. Truman, Presiding Judge,  
1927-1934*

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