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**PROCLAMATION
OF THE PORT OF SEATTLE COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, César Chávez was an American farm worker, labor leader, and civil rights activist who, with civil rights activist Dolores Huerta, co-founded the National Farm Workers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers; and

WHEREAS, through self-sacrifice, a commitment to nonviolence, and their spirituality, César Chávez and Dolores Huerta championed a social justice movement that changed our nation; and

WHEREAS, the nearly 300,000 migrant and seasonal farm workers are the backbone of Washington’s agricultural sector, which, in turn, accounts for a significant portion of all exports through the Port of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, in March 2014, President Barack Obama proclaimed March 31 as Cesar Chavez Day; and

WHEREAS, the month of March is also when we celebrate and honor Women’s History; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature designated April 10th as the Dolores Huerta Day in Washington State starting in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the employee Resource Group, ERG, Latinos Unidos at the Port of Seattle has led the Port of Seattle in honoring the legacy of Cesar Chavez during the month of March since 2016; and

WHEREAS, the popular phrase "**Sí, se puede**" is attributed to the activism and civil rights work in which the celebration of Cesar Chavez Day on March 31st is celebrated. It was Dolores Huerta who first said the words which translate in English to “Yes I can, or yes, we can,” as she rallied support for worker and immigrant rights; and

36 **WHEREAS,** in 2019 the Port established an Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion to
37 address institutional racism and increase equity, diversity, and inclusion in Port
38 policies, processes, and programs and better; and
39

40 **WHEREAS,** when each of us, individually and collectively, works to change things for the
41 better, we embody the spirit of "**Sí, se puede.**"
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43 **NOW, THEREFORE,** the Port of Seattle Commission hereby honors and recognizes
44 March 31st, as Cesar Chavez Day and Dolores Huerta Day at the Port of Seattle.
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46 Proclaimed by the Port of Seattle Commission this 23rd day of March, 2021.
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61 Port of Seattle Commission
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