

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER

MAY 13, 2025

RECOGNIZING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES

The United States Semiquincentennial, also called the Bisesquicentennial, the Sestercentennial, or the Quarter Millennial, will mark the 250th anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 2026. This is a pivotal moment in history that offers an opportunity to celebrate our country’s achievements and reflect on our nation’s founding and the numerous contributions of individuals and communities over the past two and a half centuries.

Los Angeles County, the most populous county in the United States, has played an integral role in the growth and transformation of our nation. Known for our diverse culture and innovation, Los Angeles County continues to play a key role in shaping the country. The 250th anniversary provides an opportunity for us to reflect on both the national and local histories and continue to look forward to the future we want to create for new generations.

On January 29th, 2025, the President issued an order to establish the White House Task Force Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday. In anticipation of the momentous Semiquincentennial celebration, Los Angeles County will have the chance to honor the nation’s rich and multifaceted history through educational initiatives, community engagement, and cultural events.

The United States Semiquincentennial also holds particular significance for our military branches. This year the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps will celebrate their respective 250th anniversaries. These celebrations allow us to reflect on the evolution of the military and its role in defending freedom and democracy - the values upon which the nation was founded.

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MOTION

SOLIS	_____
MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors begin preparations to recognize the United States Semiquincentennial on July 4th, 2026, and:

1. Instruct the Chief Executive Officer to work with all relevant County Departments to promote events and educational materials related to the Semiquincentennial, and utilize websites and social media platforms to share information and generate awareness about events and activities;
2. Instruct the Los Angeles County Public Library to collate educational materials and items in its collection regarding the birth of our nation and report back in writing in 120 days on opportunities to display information in County libraries and on its website;
3. Instruct the Department of Arts and Culture to report back in writing in 120 days on opportunities to promote the upcoming Semiquincentennial through civic arts activities and events in the County; and
4. Request the Director of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County to report back in writing in 120 days on potential activities to promote the Semiquincentennial in 2026.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors recognize the following Armed Services 250th anniversaries:

1. United States Army on June 14th, 2025;
2. United States Navy on October 13th, 2025; and
3. United States Marine Corps on November 10th, 2025.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to survey what other large jurisdictions are planning to do for the Semiquincentennial and report back to the Board in writing in 120 days, including opportunities to honor the veteran community for their service in light of these historic anniversaries.

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