

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 627

Expressing support for the designation of the second Monday in October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” to celebrate and honor indigenous peoples and their shared history and culture.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 11, 2019

Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Ms. MCCOLLUM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of the second Monday in October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” to celebrate and honor indigenous peoples and their shared history and culture.

Whereas “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” was first proposed in 1977, by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations International Conference on Discrimination against Indigenous Populations in the Americas;

Whereas currently over 50 municipalities and 10 States celebrate “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” on the second Monday of October;

Whereas Columbus Day is a Federal holiday, established by order of President Roosevelt in 1937, and is officially rec-

ognized by some cities and States around the country on the second Monday of October;

Whereas Columbus Day does not currently provide an opportunity to reflect on the colonization of North America by Europeans;

Whereas prior to colonization, indigenous peoples lived and flourished in the Americas for thousands of years;

Whereas the European colonization of North America led to the suppression, forced assimilation, and genocide of indigenous peoples and their cultures;

Whereas the House of Representatives recognizes and values the vast contributions made to the United States by indigenous peoples' knowledge, science, philosophy, arts, and culture;

Whereas it is the responsibility of the House of Representatives to foster inclusivity, racial equity, and justice for all people and oppose systemic practices that perpetuate oppression;

Whereas the House of Representatives recognizes its responsibility to honor the Nation's indigenous roots, history, traditions, and cultural contributions; and

Whereas the second Monday in October would be an appropriate date to designate as "Indigenous Peoples' Day":
Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) honors and recognizes the unique contribu-
- 3 tions indigenous peoples have made to the United
- 4 States of America;

1 (2) encourages the people of the United States
2 to observe “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” with appro-
3 priate ceremonies and activities that celebrate and
4 promote awareness of indigenous peoples and their
5 shared history and culture; and

6 (3) supports the official designation of “Indige-
7 nous Peoples Day”.

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