

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing the second Monday in October 2023 as "Indigenous Peoples' Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day is a holiday that celebrates and honors Native American peoples and commemorates their histories and cultures, and

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, and

WHEREAS, while there is no federally recognized holiday, Indigenous Peoples' Day is celebrated across the United States on the second Monday of October and is an official city and state holiday in various localities, and

WHEREAS, before colonization, indigenous peoples lived and flourished in the Americas for thousands of years, and

WHEREAS, many native cultures were lost due to European colonization of North America, which led to the deaths of millions of native people and the forced assimilation of survivors, and

WHEREAS, there are over 94,000 people identified as Native Americans or as descendants of Native Americans living in Florida based on 2020 United States Census Bureau data, and

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25           WHEREAS, indigenous people have immeasurably contributed to  
26 the state and nation in various fields, including science,  
27 philosophy, culture, and the arts, and

28           WHEREAS, numerous ceremonies and activities throughout the  
29 state celebrate indigenous people and their histories, NOW,  
30 THEREFORE,

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32 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
33 Florida:

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35           That the second Monday in October 2023 is recognized as  
36 "Indigenous Peoples' Day" in Florida.