

House Resolution 35EX

By: Representatives Cannon of the 58th, Beverly of the 143rd, McClain of the 100th, Smyre of the 135th, Shannon of the 84th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing November 2021 as Native American Heritage Month; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Georgia House of Representatives recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples
3 of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have inhabited these lands since
4 time immemorial; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Georgia includes ancestral homelands of Indigenous Peoples' nations; and
- 6 WHEREAS, the Georgia House of Representatives recognizes the fact that the current
7 developments are built upon the homelands and towns of the Indigenous Peoples of this
8 region; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Georgia has benefitted directly from the removal policies that violated human
10 rights, broke government treaties, and forced Cherokee and Muscogee (Creek) People from
11 their homelands; and
- 12 WHEREAS, facing and acknowledging our past, the good as well as the bad, makes our
13 community stronger and more resilient; and

14 WHEREAS, the Georgia House of Representatives recognizes and values the many
15 contributions made to our community through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor,
16 technology, science, philosophy, arts, and deep cultural contributions; and

17 WHEREAS, the Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), and other Indigenous Peoples have, as in all
18 parts of the Americas, endured centuries of cruelty, exploitation, and genocide; and

19 WHEREAS, the Georgia House of Representatives has a responsibility to support policies
20 and actions that end high rates of poverty and income inequality as well as address
21 disproportionate outcomes in health, education, and social crises; and

22 WHEREAS, the Georgia House of Representatives desires to promote the closing of the
23 equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences
24 of Indigenous Peoples; ensure greater access and opportunities; and honor our nation's
25 indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

26 WHEREAS, a growing number of United States cities, counties, and states have recognized
27 the second Monday of October as "Indigenous Peoples' Day," reimagining Columbus Day
28 as an opportunity to celebrate indigenous resiliency.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body recognize November 2021 as Native American Heritage Month in
31 the State of Georgia.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
34 public and the press.