

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 435—COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

MARCH 27, 2017

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Designates October 16 as Sarah Winnemucca Day in Nevada. (BDR 19-1141)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to days of observance; requiring the Governor annually to proclaim October 16 to be “Sarah Winnemucca Day” in Nevada; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law sets forth certain days of observance in this State to commemorate
2 certain persons or occasions or to publicize information regarding certain important
3 topics. (NRS 236.018-236.085) This bill requires the Governor annually to
4 proclaim October 16 to be “Sarah Winnemucca Day” in the State of Nevada.

1 WHEREAS, Sarah Winnemucca, a princess of the Paiute Nation,
2 was born in 1844 in western Nevada where her grandfather was
3 Chief of the Tribe; and

4 WHEREAS, Sarah Winnemucca learned to communicate in five
5 languages before she reached the age of 14, English, Spanish and
6 three Native American dialects; and

7 WHEREAS, Sarah Winnemucca spent much of her life
8 negotiating between two conflicting cultures with the aim of
9 promoting understanding and improving life for the Paiute people;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Sarah Winnemucca served as a translator for the
12 Armed Forces of the United States, addressed President Rutherford
13 B. Hayes and Secretary of the Interior Carl Schurz about the plight
14 of the Paiute Tribe, performed over 300 lectures across several
15 states dramatizing the harshness of life for people confined to a



1 reservation, founded a school and published a memoir, all before
2 women in the United States had secured the right to vote; and

3 WHEREAS, Sarah Winnemucca, a native of Nevada, is one of the
4 most influential and charismatic American Indian women in
5 American history; and

6 WHEREAS, Sarah Winnemucca died on October 16, 1891; now,
7 therefore,

8
9 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
10 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
11

12 **Section 1.** Chapter 236 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
13 thereto a new section to read as follows:

14 *1. The Governor shall annually proclaim October 16 to be*
15 *“Sarah Winnemucca Day” in the State of Nevada.*

16 *2. The proclamation must call upon the news media,*
17 *educators, business and labor leaders and appropriate*
18 *governmental officers to bring to the attention of Nevada residents*
19 *the important contributions Sarah Winnemucca made to the*
20 *Paiute Tribe, the State of Nevada and the United States.*

21 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.

