

By: Hunter, Pacheco

H.C.R. No. 62

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Since the early 1990s, dozens of cities and a
2 growing number of states have adopted the observance of Indigenous
3 Peoples' Day to celebrate the history and contributions of Native
4 Americans; and

5 WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977
6 as part of the International Conference on Discrimination Against
7 Indigenous Populations in the Americas; coinciding with Columbus
8 Day, the observance has become an important means of focusing
9 attention on the native peoples of the Americas, past and present;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, More than 14,000 years ago, ancient peoples arrived
12 in North America from Asia and migrated south; over the millennia,
13 they built empires, constructed sophisticated cities, and
14 developed elaborate trade networks and complex social systems; the
15 area now known as Texas became home to numerous indigenous tribes
16 with their own unique cultures and ways of life; and

17 WHEREAS, Early inhabitants of our state's Gulf Coast included
18 the semi-nomadic Atakapa, Karankawa, Mariame, and Akokisa, who
19 lived on the shore for part of the year and moved some 30 to 40 miles
20 inland on a seasonal basis; the Caddo in East Texas and Jumano in
21 West Texas were farmers and traders, with economic ties to other
22 tribes and, later, to Europeans; the Comanche and Apache were
23 bison-hunting warriors who traversed large regions of the Southern
24 Plains on horseback; a host of other groups inhabited the Plains

1 area as well, among them Coahuiltecans, Cocoimes, Chisos, Tobosos,
2 Tawakonis, Wacos, and Kiowas; and

3 WHEREAS, Today, the Lone Star State is home to Native
4 Americans from diverse tribal nations, and the effort to retain
5 ancestral memories, languages, and cultures is ongoing and vital;
6 the observation of Indigenous Peoples' Day raises awareness of this
7 rich heritage and the wide-ranging contributions Native Americans
8 have made and continue to make to our state and nation; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas
11 hereby designate the second Monday in October as Indigenous
12 Peoples' Day; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section
14 [391.004\(d\)](#), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
15 until the 10th anniversary of the date that this resolution finally
16 is passed by the legislature.