

By: Hunter

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.