



2023 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 90

November 15, 2023 - Introduced by Senators SMITH, AGARD, CABRAL-GUEVARA, CARPENTER, FELZKOWSKI, HESSELBEIN, LARSON, ROYS and SPREITZER, cosponsored by Representatives CONLEY, VINING, MURSAU, C. ANDERSON, J. ANDERSON, ANDRACA, BARE, BILLINGS, CLANCY, CONSIDINE, DRAKE, EMERSON, GOYKE, GUSTAFSON, HONG, JACOBSON, JOERS, S. JOHNSON, MADISON, MOORE OMOKUNDE, NEUBAUER, O'CONNOR, OHNSTAD, ORTIZ-VELEZ, RATCLIFF, RIEMER, SHANKLAND, SHELTON, SINICKI, STUBBS and TITTL. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** recognizing November as Native American Heritage Month.

2 Whereas, November is designated National Native American Heritage Month
3 to recognize the rich history, culture, tradition, and contributions of the country's
4 Indigenous population; and

5 Whereas, Congress requested that President George H.W. Bush designate
6 November as National Native American Heritage Month in 1990, and Presidents
7 Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and Joseph Biden have
8 all issued annual proclamations designating November as National Native
9 American Heritage Month; and

10 Whereas, the state of Wisconsin consists of the land of 11 federally recognized
11 American Indian nations and tribal communities: Bad River Band of the Lake
12 Superior Tribe of Chippewa, Forest County Potawatomi Community, Ho-Chunk
13 Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin,
14 Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Menominee Indian
15 Tribe of Wisconsin, Oneida Nation, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

1 Indians, Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Saint Croix Chippewa Indians of
2 Wisconsin, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, and other tribes that are not federally
3 recognized; and

4 Whereas, the Wisconsin State Legislature recognizes that the State Capitol
5 occupies ancestral Ho-Chunk land; the Ho-Chunk people are known as the People
6 of the Sacred Voice and resided on these lands until being forcibly removed by the
7 federal government in the 1830s following the Indian Removal Act of 1830; and

8 Whereas, the Wisconsin State Legislature recognizes that the Menominee
9 Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, having no migration story, are the original people of this
10 land since time immemorial; and

11 Whereas, Native Americans shaped our nation and state long before each was
12 founded, including being a primary example for the ideals of our government; and

13 Whereas, the American Indian nations in Wisconsin are among the greatest
14 assets of the State of Wisconsin and provide vital economic impact in the State of
15 Wisconsin as the largest employers in the vast majority of counties in which their
16 communities reside; and

17 Whereas, when faced with the COVID-19 pandemic, the American Indian
18 leaders in Wisconsin rose to the challenge, took an aggressive approach to keeping
19 their communities safe, and did what was necessary to protect their most valuable
20 and vulnerable resources—their tribal members and their neighbors within tribal
21 communities and their surrounding communities; and

22 Whereas, Wisconsin is rich in American Indian tradition and culture; and

23 Whereas, to better educate youth about Wisconsin's American Indian culture,
24 2021 Wisconsin Act 31 requires all Wisconsin public schools to provide instruction

1 in the history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of the 11 federally recognized American
2 Indian nations and tribal communities in Wisconsin; and

3 Whereas, out of respect for, to honor, and to recognize the invaluable actions and
4 contributions made by the Native Americans and Alaska Natives in Wisconsin and
5 the United States; now, therefore, be it

6 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
7 Legislature recognizes November as Native American Heritage Month.

8 (END)