Native American/Alaskan Heritage Month Resolution

"A resolution to recognize and celebrate the diverse cultures, traditions, and history of Native Americans and Alaskans"

Action Taken: PASSED

Certified By: Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: 1-11-20

Introduced By: Aariana Myles, Off-Campus Caucus
Dang Dang, Off-Campus Caucus
David Garcia, Off-Campus Caucus
Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion, Off-Campus Caucus

Sponsored By: Micheal Garcia, Off-Campus Caucus
Dylan Bohn, Mays Business Caucus

Whereas(1): The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York. More than seven decades later, then-President George H.W. Bush in 1990 signed a joint congressional resolution designating the month of November "National American Indian Heritage Month"; and,

Whereas(2): As of 2019, there are 6.9 million Native American/Alaskan Natives living in the United States and 574 federally recognized Indian tribes that have a right to self government; and,

Whereas(3): As of today, there are three federally recognized and two state recognized Native American tribes in Texas today; and,

Whereas(4): The Native American and Indegenous Student Organization, NAISO, is the only Native American student organization at Texas A&M; and,

1 https://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2020/aiian-month.html
2 http://convention.myaepsa.org/houston2018/indigenous-texas/
Whereas (5): October 12th is recognized as Indigenous Peoples’ Day and was celebrated throughout the country and at Texas A&M, led by NAISO, with a message to address the controversies of “Columbus Day,” and commemorate Native Americans contribution to our society; and,

Whereas(6): As of Fall 2020, there are 153 students enrolled, 0.22% of the entire student body population, enrolled as Native Americans attend Texas A&M; and,

Whereas(7): As of Fall 2020, there are 30 Native American staff members, 0.41% of the entire staff population, currently employed by Texas A&M; and,

Therefore
Let it be
Resolved(1): The 73rd Session of the Texas A&M Student Senate recognizes the month of November as National Native American/Alaskan Heritage Month; and,

Let it be
Further
Resolved(2): The 73rd Session of Student Senate commends all Native American students as they continue to celebrate their cultures, heritages and traditions, such Corp Cadet member George Hase; and,

Let it be
Further
Resolved(2): The 73rd Session of Student Senate commends Texas A&M University Libraries for actively providing the history of Native American/Alaskan Heritage Month on their website, along with recommendations of related books and movies; and,

Let it be
Further
Resolved(3): The 73rd session of Student Senate encourages Texas A&M University to better advocate and represent smaller minority groups such as the Native American student population on and off campus; and,
Let it be
Further
Resolved(4): The 73rd Session of Student Senate encourages the student body and administration to continue raising awareness and bring recognition to the Native American student population at Texas A&M even though the number is miniscule; and,

Let it be
Further
Resolved(5): A copy of this resolution be sent to:
The Battalion
Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Robin Means-Coleman, Vice President & Associate Provost for Diversity
Dr. Tonya Driver, Director of Department of Multicultural Services
The Native American and Indegenous Student Organization, NAISO
George Hass

Further Sponsored By:
Emma Mosley, Off Campus
Blake Martin, Liberal Arts Caucus
Mariana Montes, Liberal Arts Caucus
Aktaa Patel, Senator, Off Campus Caucus
Kat Niño, Senator, Off Campus Caucus
Ximena Reynoso, Senator, Liberal Arts Caucus
Yovanka Carolyn Gonzalez, Mays Business Caucus
Emily Lucas, College of Education & Human Development
Jocelyn Marrufo, Liberal Arts Caucus
Bryan Marin, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Science Caucus
Alexia Hernandez, Liberal Arts Caucus
Matthew B. Francis Jr., Off Campus Caucus
Betzaida Perez Gomez, Senator, Engineering caucus
Megha Viswanath, Off Campus Caucus