

Designating November as National Native American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Native Americans were the original inhabitants of the lands that now constitute the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans have made an essential and unique contribution to our Nation, not the least of which is the contribution of most of the land which now comprises these United States; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans have made essential contributions to the world, including prehistoric cultivation and harvesting of corn and sweet potatoes; and

WHEREAS, the people of the United States should be reminded of the assistance given to the early European visitors to North America by the ancestors of today's Native Americans, including knowledge and training provided to the pilgrims in survival, hunting, and cultivation, and fertilization of indigenous crops; and

WHEREAS, the people and Government of the United States should be reminded of the assistance given to this country's Founders by the ancestors of today's Native Americans including the support the original inhabitants provided to George Washington and his troops during the winter of 1777-1778, which they spent in Valley Forge; and

HEREAS, the people and Government of the United States should be reminded that certain concepts such as freedom of speech, the separation of powers in government, and the balance of power within government, all of which were found in the political systems of various Native Americans nations, influenced the formulation of the Government of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Board for the South Orange County Community College District believe that a resolution of this nature can encourage activities that provide positive benefits of enhanced self-esteem, pride, and self-awareness to young Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, the month of November concludes the traditional harvest season of Native Americans and is generally a time of celebration and giving thanks. Now, therefore,



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SE IT RESOLVED by the South Orange County Community College District Board of Trustees that the month of November is designated as "National Native Americans Heritage Month," and the students, staff, and faculty of both Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College are called upon to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

			A SOLUTION AND ADDRESS.
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