

SR-93, As Adopted by Senate, September 24, 2015

Senator Schmidt offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 93.

A resolution to recognize the fourth Friday of September as Michigan Indian Day.

Whereas, The state of Michigan is home to twelve federally-recognized tribal nations, each having a unique and independent government with different management and decision-making structures which exercise sovereign authority; and

Whereas, 1974 PA 30 establishes the fourth Friday in September as Indian Day in Michigan; and

Whereas, The people of the state of Michigan benefit from an understanding of our history and the lives of those who came before us on these pleasant peninsulas; and

Whereas, Our shared history of the place we call Michigan dates back approximately 14,000 years to the time when the last glacier retreated from the land, and humans, including the Anishinaabeg, populated the area and who passed along their history through our tribal partners; and

Whereas, In 2002, the state of Michigan and federally-recognized tribal nations entered into a Government-to-Government Accord, providing a framework for a government-to-government partnership that recognizes that the parties share a responsibility to provide for and protect the health, safety, and welfare of their common citizens. The 2002 Accord sought to enhance and improve communication between the parties, foster respect for their sovereign status, and facilitate the resolution of potentially contentious issues; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan is grateful for the government-to-government partnership that it shares with the twelve federally-recognized tribes within its borders: the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the Hannahville Indian Community, the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians; the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians; the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi; the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi; the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan and our tribal partners have engaged in many fruitful and cooperative efforts to improve the lives of our citizens, and Michigan Indian Day is an annual opportunity to honor those accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we are honored to welcome the twelve federally-recognized Indian tribes located within Michigan to our State Capitol in Lansing for the purpose of fostering meaningful consultation and dialogue to improve upon our valued government-to-government partnerships at the Annual State-Tribal Summit; and be it further

Resolved, That our common future will be improved with thorough cooperation and communication between tribal and state leadership; and be it further

Resolved, That the Michigan Senate hereby acknowledges the fourth Friday in September as Michigan Indian Day in recognition of the significant contributions of the twelve nations, their citizens, and predecessors to our great state's rich history and bright future.