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(Original Signature of Member)

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. _____

To designate a paid legal public holiday in honor of Native Americans.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BACA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

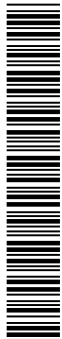
To designate a paid legal public holiday in honor of Native
Americans.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Native Americans were the original inhab-
6 itants of the land that now constitutes the United
7 States.



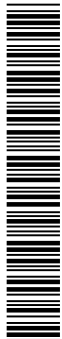
1 (2) Native American tribal governments devel-
2 oped the fundamental principles of freedom of
3 speech and separation of powers that form the foun-
4 dation of the United States Government.

5 (3) Native Americans have traditionally exhib-
6 ited respect for our finite natural resources through
7 a deep reverence for the Earth.

8 (4) Native Americans have served with valor in
9 all of the Nation's wars beginning with the Revolu-
10 tionary War through the present day, and often the
11 percentage of Native American Indians who served
12 exceeded significantly the percentage of Americans
13 in the population of the United States as a whole,
14 showing the disproportionate commitment of Native
15 Americans to the Nation.

16 (5) Native Americans have made distinct and
17 important contributions to the United States and
18 the rest of the world in many fields, including agri-
19 culture, medicine, music, language, art, and as in-
20 ventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and schol-
21 ars.

22 (6) Native Americans deserve to be recognized
23 for their individual contributions to the United
24 States as local and national leaders, artists, athletes,
25 and scholars.



1 (7) This recognition will encourage self-esteem,
2 pride, and self-awareness in Native Americans of all
3 ages about the significant role their ancestors and
4 heritage played in the formation of the freest coun-
5 try in the world, the United States.

6 (8) This recognition will allow all Americans of
7 whatever background to show respect and admira-
8 tion to Native Americans for their important con-
9 tributions to the political, cultural, and economic life
10 of the United States and the richness of its cultural
11 fabric.

12 (9) Bringing about a legal public holiday for
13 Native Americans will show a strong united govern-
14 ment-to-government relationship between each of the
15 Native American Nations and the Federal Govern-
16 ment.

17 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF NATIVE AMERICAN'S DAY.**

18 Congress requests that__

19 (1) the President issue a proclamation desig-
20 nating a paid legal public holiday as “Native Ameri-
21 can’s Day”; and

22 (2) Federal, State, and local governments, in-
23 terested groups and organizations, and the people of
24 the United States to observe Native American’s Day



1 with programs, appropriate ceremonies, and activi-
2 ties.

