

A Resolution in Support of the State of Washington Officially Recognizing Indigenous Peoples Day

Be it resolved, that we, the State Board of Directors of the Washington Education Association, hereby reaffirm our organization's support of recognizing the contributions of our Native American, Alaskan Native and First Nations' tribal governments, communities, elders, educators, parents and students, in the educational institutions and systems within our state.

Whereas, the Washington Education Association recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of our state have called all parts the lands now known as North, Central and South America their home since time immemorial; and

Whereas, the Washington Education Association recognizes the cities and towns of our state are built upon the homelands and villages of the Indigenous Peoples of this region; and

Whereas, the Washington Education Association values the many contributions made to our communities and educational institutions through the knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts and deep cultural contributions of the Indigenous Peoples of our region; and

Whereas, the Washington Education Association acknowledges its responsibility to oppose the systemic racism towards Indigenous people in the United States, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbating disproportionate health, education, and social crises; and

Whereas, the Washington Education Association seeks to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination stemming from colonization, and promote awareness, understanding, and good relations between our Indigenous educational partners and all other segments of our organization; and

Whereas, the Washington Education Association advocates for educational excellence for all Indigenous Peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensure greater access and opportunity, and honor our nation's indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

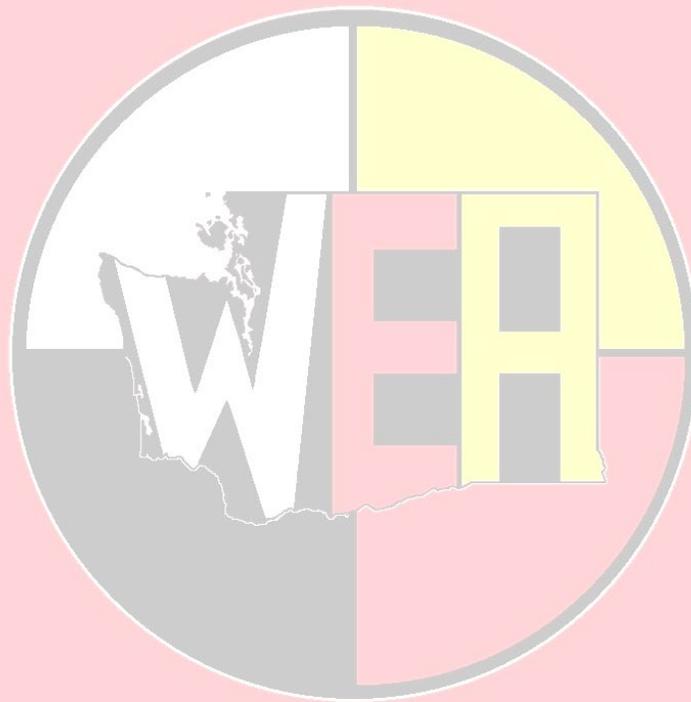
Whereas, the Washington Education Association recognizes that SB 5433 requires the teaching of the history, government and contemporary issues of the Twenty-nine federally recognized tribes of Washington state; and

Whereas, the recognition of said holiday, is not without precedent, having already been passed and recognized in the cities of Seattle (2014,) Olympia (2015,) Bainbridge Island, Spokane and Yakima (2016,) as well as Pullman and Tacoma (2018.)

Therefore, it is resolved that we, the State Board of Directors of the Washington Education Association will stand in solidarity with our Native American Alaskan Native and First

Nations' tribal governments, communities, elders, educators, parents and students in the educational institutions and systems within our state; to once and for all, support action by the Washington State Legislature to officially recognize the second Monday of every October as Indigenous Peoples Day.

THE WASHINGTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



NATIVE AMERICAN, ALASKAN NATIVE
& FIRST NATIONS' EDUCATION COUNCIL