

Good morning,

I'm asking that the committee please vote in favor of naming the second Monday in October as Oregon Indigenous Peoples Day. Oregon was established and later joined the union of these United States on land that belongs to the indigenous peoples of Oregon. Everyday we should be give thanks for the lives we lead on this land that is sacred to the Indigenous people, asking that that second Monday in October be named as Indigenous Peoples Day would be a wonderful thank you to them for sharing this land that we all call home.

It would be a wonderful first step in also acknowledging the harm that had come to the Indigenous people of Oregon, of the land, lives, and culture that was taken from them that if measured by todays standards would be no less then the genocide of these people who are our neighbors and friends. It would also allow Oregon to lead the way in looking back honestly at our history with opened eyes to how we have come to where we are now. By acknowledging the good and bad of our history we can build a better future together.

Thank you for taking my comments and thank you to the Chief Sponsors: Representatives Tawna Sanchez and Alonso Leon.

Sincerely,
James Yarger