House Bill 2526

Sponsored by Representative SANCHEZ; Representatives REARDON, SOLLMAN (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Designates second Monday of October of each year as Indigenous Peoples’ Day. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to Indigenous Peoples’ Day; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas Christopher Columbus, a man who is known to have “discovered” the Americas, came upon land that was already inhabited by Indigenous People, his historically cited contributions being either inaccurate or facially not worthy of celebrating; and

Whereas Columbus’ voyage to the Americas opened the door to heinous crimes against humanity, including but not limited to the introduction of transatlantic slavery and genocidal acts against Indigenous People; and

Whereas the Indigenous People were promised security and protection but instead were forcibly relocated and their land seized to allow for settlements; and

Whereas the State of Oregon recognizes and acknowledges the significant contributions made in our community by Indigenous People and commits to ensure greater access and opportunity for continued contribution; and

Whereas the State of Oregon has the opportunity and means to cultivate a community that honors and respects the diverse history of this land; and

Whereas the State of Oregon does not formally recognize Columbus Day; and

Whereas it is appropriate to recognize the original inhabitants of the Americas: Indigenous People; and

Whereas the idea of Indigenous Peoples’ Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations; and

Whereas the State of Oregon, upon adoption of this Act, would become the 11th state in the United States to formally recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. The second Monday in October of each year is designated as Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

SECTION 2. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect on passage.

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

LC 2327