

SENATE BILL 222

Introduced by Fritz, et al.

1/20	Introduced
1/20	Referred to State Administration
1/20	First Reading
2/09	Hearing
2/09	Hearing
2/15	Committee Report--Bill Passed
2/17	2nd Reading Passed
2/18	3rd Reading Passed
	Transmitted to House
2/23	Referred to State Administration
2/23	First Reading
3/17	Hearing
3/20	Committee Report--Bill Concurred as Amended
3/27	2nd Reading Indefinitely Postponed

1 *Sen. Bill No. 222*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Sen. Yellowtail, Sen. Russell*  
 3 *Ream, Sen. Stanger, Sen. Rodas, Sen. Roney*  
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REPLACING COLUMBUS DAY  
 5 WITH AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE DAY AS A LEGAL STATE HOLIDAY  
 6 AND COMMEMORATIVE DAY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND AMENDING  
 7 SECTIONS 1-1-216 AND 20-1-306, MCA."  
 8

9 WHEREAS, the lives of all Montanans have been enriched  
 10 by the lives and culture of American Indians; and

11 WHEREAS, American Indians are the state's largest ethnic  
 12 minority, approximately 6% of Montana's total population and  
 13 10% of Montana's elementary school population; and

14 WHEREAS, Montanans have recognized the unique cultural  
 15 heritage of American Indians and have established in Article  
 16 X, section 1, of the Montana Constitution, an educational  
 17 goal and a commitment to preserve the cultural integrity of  
 18 American Indians; and

19 WHEREAS, modern historical research has documented the  
 20 tragic destruction of Native People's culture and lives  
 21 following Columbus's arrival in America.

22 THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana finds  
 23 it appropriate to honor and celebrate Montana's American  
 24 Indians by changing Columbus Day to American Indian Heritage  
 25 Day.



1  
 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:  
 3 **Section 1.** Section 1-1-216, MCA, is amended to read:  
 4 "1-1-216. Legal holidays and business days. (1) The  
 5 following are legal holidays in the state of Montana:  
 6 (a) Each Sunday;  
 7 (b) New Year's Day, January 1;  
 8 (c) Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the third Monday in  
 9 January;  
 10 (d) Lincoln's and Washington's Birthdays, the third  
 11 Monday in February;  
 12 (e) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May;  
 13 (f) Independence Day, July 4;  
 14 (g) Labor Day, the first Monday in September;  
 15 (h) Columbus American Indian Heritage Day, the second  
 16 Monday in October;  
 17 (i) Veterans' Day, November 11;  
 18 (j) Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November;  
 19 (k) Christmas Day, December 25;  
 20 (l) State general election day.  
 21 (2) If any of the above-enumerated holidays (except  
 22 Sunday) fall upon a Sunday, the Monday following is a  
 23 holiday. All other days are business days."  
 24 **Section 2.** Section 20-1-306, MCA, is amended to read:  
 25 "20-1-306. Commemorative exercises on certain days. (1)

1 All districts shall conduct appropriate exercises during the  
2 school day on the following commemorative days:

- 3 (a) Lincoln's Birthday (February 12);
  - 4 (b) Washington's Birthday (February 22);
  - 5 (c) Arbor Day (last Friday in April);
  - 6 (d) Flag Day (June 14);
  - 7 (e) Citizenship Day (September 17);
  - 8 (f) Columbus American Indian Heritage Day (October 12);
  - 9 (g) Pioneer Day (November 1);
  - 10 (h) Other days designated by the legislature or
  - 11 governor as legal holidays.
- 12 (2) When these commemorative days fall on Saturday or
- 13 Sunday, exercises may be conducted the preceding Friday."

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE  
ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

*Sunalt* BILL NO. *222*

INTRODUCED BY *Frank Yellowtail Hansen*

*Ream*

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REPLACING COLUMBUS DAY  
WITH AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE DAY AS A LEGAL STATE HOLIDAY  
AND COMMEMORATIVE DAY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND AMENDING  
SECTIONS 1-1-216 AND 20-1-306, MCA."

WHEREAS, the lives of all Montanans have been enriched  
by the lives and culture of American Indians; and

WHEREAS, American Indians are the state's largest ethnic  
minority, approximately 6% of Montana's total population and  
10% of Montana's elementary school population; and

WHEREAS, Montanans have recognized the unique cultural  
heritage of American Indians and have established in Article  
X, section 1, of the Montana Constitution, an educational  
goal and a commitment to preserve the cultural integrity of  
American Indians; and

WHEREAS, modern historical research has documented the  
tragic destruction of Native People's culture and lives  
following Columbus's arrival in America.

THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana finds  
it appropriate to honor and celebrate Montana's American  
Indians by changing Columbus Day to American Indian Heritage  
Day.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 1-1-216, MCA, is amended to read:

"1-1-216. Legal holidays and business days. (1) The  
following are legal holidays in the state of Montana:

(a) Each Sunday;

(b) New Year's Day, January 1;

(c) Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the third Monday in  
January;

(d) Lincoln's and Washington's Birthdays, the third  
Monday in February;

(e) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May;

(f) Independence Day, July 4;

(g) Labor Day, the first Monday in September;

(h) ~~Columbus~~ American Indian Heritage Day, the second  
Monday in October;

(i) Veterans' Day, November 11;

(j) Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November;

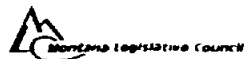
(k) Christmas Day, December 25;

(l) State general election day.

(2) If any of the above-enumerated holidays (except  
Sunday) fall upon a Sunday, the Monday following is a  
holiday. All other days are business days."

**Section 2.** Section 20-1-306, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-1-306. Commemorative exercises on certain days. (1)



1 All districts shall conduct appropriate exercises during the  
2 school day on the following commemorative days:

- 3 (a) Lincoln's Birthday (February 12);
- 4 (b) Washington's Birthday (February 22);
- 5 (c) Arbor Day (last Friday in April);
- 6 (d) Flag Day (June 14);
- 7 (e) Citizenship Day (September 17);
- 8 (f) ~~Columbus~~ American Indian Heritage Day (October 12);
- 9 (g) Pioneer Day (November 1);
- 10 (h) Other days designated by the legislature or  
11 governor as legal holidays.

12 (2) When these commemorative days fall on Saturday or  
13 Sunday, exercises may be conducted the preceding Friday."

-End-

SENATE BILL NO. 222

INTRODUCED BY

Ream

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REPLACING COLUMBUS DAY WITH AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE DAY AS A LEGAL STATE HOLIDAY AND COMMEMORATIVE DAY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 1-1-216 AND 20-1-306, MCA."

WHEREAS, the lives of all Montanans have been enriched by the lives and culture of American Indians; and

WHEREAS, American Indians are the state's largest ethnic minority, approximately 6% of Montana's total population and 10% of Montana's elementary school population; and

WHEREAS, Montanans have recognized the unique cultural heritage of American Indians and have established in Article X, section 1, of the Montana Constitution, an educational goal and a commitment to preserve the cultural integrity of American Indians; and

WHEREAS, modern historical research has documented the tragic destruction of Native People's culture and lives following Columbus's arrival in America.

THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana finds it appropriate to honor and celebrate Montana's American Indians by changing Columbus Day to American Indian Heritage Day.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 1-1-216, MCA, is amended to read:

"1-1-216. Legal holidays and business days. (1) The following are legal holidays in the state of Montana:

(a) Each Sunday;

(b) New Year's Day, January 1;

(c) Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the third Monday in January;

(d) Lincoln's and Washington's Birthdays, the third Monday in February;

(e) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May;

(f) Independence Day, July 4;

(g) Labor Day, the first Monday in September;

(h) Columbus American Indian Heritage Day, the second Monday in October;

(i) Veterans' Day, November 11;

(j) Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November;

(k) Christmas Day, December 25;

(l) State general election day.

(2) If any of the above-enumerated holidays (except Sunday) fall upon a Sunday, the Monday following is a holiday. All other days are business days."

**Section 2.** Section 20-1-306, MCA, is amended to read:

"20-1-306. Commemorative exercises on certain days. (1)

1 All districts shall conduct appropriate exercises during the  
2 school day on the following commemorative days:  
3 (a) Lincoln's Birthday (February 12);  
4 (b) Washington's Birthday (February 22);  
5 (c) Arbor Day (last Friday in April);  
6 (d) Flag Day (June 14);  
7 (e) Citizenship Day (September 17);  
8 (f) ~~Columbus~~ American Indian Heritage Day (October 12);  
9 (g) Pioneer Day (November 1);  
10 (h) Other days designated by the legislature or  
11 governor as legal holidays.  
12 (2) When these commemorative days fall on Saturday or  
13 Sunday, exercises may be conducted the preceding Friday."

-End-

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 19, 1993  
Page 2 of 2

March 19, 1993

Page 1 of 2

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on State Administration report that Senate Bill 222 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in as amended.

Signed: Dick Simpkins  
Dick Simpkins, Chair

And, that such amendments read: Carried by: Rep. Simpkins

1. Title, lines 4 through 6.

Strike: "REPLACING" on line 4 through "WITH" on line 5

Insert: "DESIGNATING"

Strike: "LEGAL" on line 5 through "AND" on line 6

2. Title, line 7.

Strike: "SECTIONS 1-1-216 and"

Insert: "SECTION"

3. Page 1.

Following: line 18

Insert: "WHEREAS, by proclamation or legislative enactment, several other states have designated a day to commemorate American Indian heritage; and"

4. Page 1, lines 19 through 21.

Strike: "modern" on line 19 through "America" on line 21

Insert: "in 1975, a joint resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana encouraged the Governor to designate the fourth Friday in September as "Native American Heritage Day" in Montana

5. Page 1, line 24.

Strike: "changing Columbus Day to"

Insert: "designating the fourth Friday in September as"

6. Page 1, line 25.

Following: "Day"

Insert: "to be commemorated in Montana's public schools"

7. Page 2, lines 3 through 23.

Strike: Section 1 in its entirety

Renumber: subsequent section

8. Page 3.

Following: line 6

Insert: "(e) American Indian Heritage Day (fourth Friday in September);"

Renumber: subsequent subsections

9. Page 3, line 8.

Strike: "American Indian Heritage"

Insert: "Columbus"

*Handwritten:* 3/22/93

Committee Vote:  
Yes 11, No 5.

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HOUSE

SB 222

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