The State of Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples have lived and flourished on the lands that are now part of Washington state since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, Washington state is home to a thriving and growing Indigenous population, including federally recognized Tribes with distinct sovereign rights, whose history, traditions and contributions continue to shape Washington state; and

WHEREAS, Washington state recognizes the vast contributions of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, philosophy, science, technology, labor, culture, traditions, and arts to the state; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples continue to enrich Washington state through the preservation and revitalization of languages, cultures, traditions, and knowledge for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Washington state promotes policies and practices that reflect the history, contributions and well-being of Indigenous Peoples; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the state of Washington was declared a sanctuary state, committing itself to inclusivity, tolerance and compassion for all residents; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington promotes appreciation, understanding and relationships with Indigenous Peoples and all Washingtonians; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, representing 59 Tribes from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Northern California, Western Montana, and parts of Alaska, passed resolution #11-57: "Support to Change Columbus Day (2nd Monday of October) to Indigenous Peoples' Day;" and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington recognizes that Indigenous Peoples' Day provides an opportunity to celebrate the thriving cultures, traditions, and values of Indigenous Peoples in Washington state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Ferguson, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2026, as

Indigenous Peoples' Day

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 9th day of October, 2026

Governor Bob Ferguson