UNIVERSITY of
HOUSTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Label: SGAR-55004
Date introduced: October 2nd, 2019
Author(s): Senator Joslin
Sponsor(s): Chair Khademakbari
Draft: Final

Indigenous Peoples Day at the University of Houston

Whereas, the University of Houston should celebrate Indigenous People's Day to honor the traditions and cultural heritage of the three federally recognized tribes that live in Texas: the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, and the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo, and other Native American tribes represented in Texas and amongst the student body.

Whereas, while it is known that historical injustices including violent oppression, economic exploitation, and genocide have occurred to North American indigenous peoples, work to recognize and honor indigenous peoples are mostly a contemporary effort.
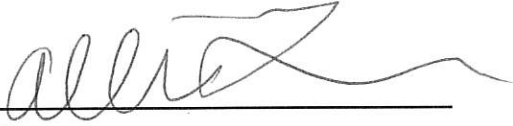
Whereas, celebrating the legacy of violence and colonization which led to the loss of 90 to 95 percent of indigenous peoples in the western hemisphere dishonors those peoples and their descendants by erasing their history and instead valorizes the irrevocable impact of Columbus.

Whereas, the University of Houston shall continue to promote an inclusive and welcoming campus, free of discrimination and injustice, befitting of its title of the second most ethnically diverse campus in the nation.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Government of the University of Houston:
That the University of Houston should observe and celebrate Indigenous People's Day in lieu of Columbus Day;

Be it further resolved, following the passage of this document, the resolution should be delivered to the people and legislative bodies who are capable of instituting such as change;
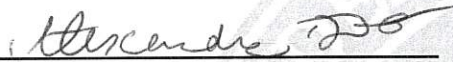
Be it further resolved, the University of Houston calendars and planners should recognize Indigenous People's Day in October rather than Columbus Day;

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Allison Lawrence

Student Government President

Date of President's Approval: 11/18/19

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Alexandre Do

Speaker of the Senate

Date of Senate's Approval: 11/13/19