



AN ACT DESIGNATING THE LAST FRIDAY OF SEPTEMBER AS A DAY TO CELEBRATE AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE.

WHEREAS, Article IX, section 4, of the Montana Constitution requires the Legislature to provide for, among other things, the enhancement and preservation of scenic, historic, archeologic, scientific, and cultural areas, sites, records, and objects and for their use and enjoyment by the people; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 1, of the Montana Constitution recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritage of the American Indians and commits, through educational goals, to the preservation of their cultural integrity; and

WHEREAS, section 2-1-305, MCA, specifically protects Indian culture; and

WHEREAS, all Montanans respect American Indian culture and recognize the educational and cultural value of designating one day each year on which American Indians should celebrate their heritage and on which American Indians' heritage should be celebrated by all Montanans.

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

**Section 1. American Indian heritage day.** There is established an American Indian heritage day for the state of Montana. American Indian heritage day is the last Friday in September of each year and is recognized as a day of observance to commemorate this state's American Indians and their valued heritage and culture. On this day, all Montanans are urged to:

- (1) reflect on American Indian culture and heritage; and
- (2) celebrate American Indians and their culture and heritage in all lawful ways.

**Section 2. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell Chippewa tribe.

**Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 1, chapter 1, part 2, and the provisions of Title 1, chapter 1, part 2, apply to [section 1].

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,  
SB 0196, originated in the Senate.

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Secretary of the Senate

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

SENATE BILL NO. 196

INTRODUCED BY WINDY BOY, BELCOURT, STEWART-PEREGOY, PEASE-LOPEZ, BOSS RIBS,  
CAMPBELL, AUGARE, ROUNDSTONE

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