

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Signed May 16, 2002.

Joint Resolution No. 10

(House Joint Resolution No. 4)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

American Indian Heritage Month

FOR the purpose of designating November as "American Indian Heritage Month".

WHEREAS, Maryland is inextricably linked to the histories of the American Indians with reminders of their legacy speaking to Marylanders through the names of its counties, parks, and waterways including, Wicomico County, Allegany County, Seneca State Park, the Potomac River, and the Chesapeake Bay, the Nation's largest estuary, that derives its name from the Powhatan Indian word "Chesepiooc" meaning "Great Shellfish Bay"; and

WHEREAS, American Indian societies exhibited a respect for the finite quality of natural resources through a deep respect for the Earth, and such values continue to be widely held today; and

WHEREAS, The people of Maryland should be reminded of the assistance given to the early European visitors to North America by the ancestors of today's American Indians, including knowledge and training provided to the Pilgrims in survival hunting and cultivation and fertilization of indigenous crops; and

WHEREAS, American Indian people have served with valor in all wars that the United States has engaged in, from the Revolutionary War to the conflict in the Persian Gulf, often serving in greater numbers, proportionately, than the population of the Nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS, In recognizing the many contributions made by the American Indians to the United States, ~~Presidents Carter, Reagan, Bush Sr., and Clinton~~ President Jimmy Carter, President Ronald W. Reagan, President George Bush, and President William J. Clinton have ~~all~~ each issued national proclamations during their administrations declaring the month of November as "American Indian Heritage Month"; and

WHEREAS, The Members of the Senate and House of Delegates believe that a resolution and proclamation of the nature requested in this resolution can encourage activities which provide positive benefits of enhanced self-esteem, pride, and self-awareness to young American Indians; and