HR0127   LRB100 03913 MST 16822 r

1   HOUSE RESOLUTION

2   WHEREAS, On October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus, an

3   Italian explorer sailing under the flag of Spain, spotted the

4   island of San Salvador in The Bahamas, discovering the "New

5   World" and forever changing the history of the world; and

6   WHEREAS, The anniversary of Columbus's landing in the

7   Americas became a national holiday in the United States in

8   1937; it became a State holiday in Illinois in 1963; and

9   WHEREAS, The arrival of Christopher Columbus to the

10   Americas brought forth an era of terror and oppression unlike

11   any seen before in human history; he helped introduce the

12   concept of slavery to the Americas and dehumanized countless

13   numbers of indigenous peoples; and

14   WHEREAS, In 1977, a movement began to replace Columbus Day

15   with "Indigenous Peoples' Day", also known as "Native American

16   Day", as a counter-celebration that promotes Native American

17   culture and the celebration of its history; in the years that

18   followed, several local governments and institutions across

19   the United States have either renamed or canceled Columbus Day

20   due to the controversy over his legacy; and

21   WHEREAS, Renaming Columbus Day as "Indigenous Peoples'

1   Day" would send a clear message that the indigenous people of
2   the Americas are valued in our society, and it will give a
3   voice to the most marginalized group in our nation, Native
4   Americans; therefore, be it

5   RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
6   HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
7   urge the State of Illinois to rename Columbus Day as
8   "Indigenous Peoples' Day" in honor of those that were in North
9   America prior to the arrival of Christopher Columbus; and be it
10   further

11   RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
12   presented to Governor Bruce Rauner, the Illinois Speaker of the
13   House, the Illinois Senate President, the Illinois House
14   Minority Leader, and the Illinois Senate Minority Leader.