

Public Law 103-462  
103d Congress

## Joint Resolution

Designating the month of November in each of calendar years 1993 and 1994  
as "National American Indian Heritage Month".

Nov. 2, 1994  
[H.J. Res. 271]

Whereas American Indians were the original inhabitants of the lands that now constitute the United States of America;

Whereas American Indian Governments developed the fundamental principles of freedom of speech and separation of powers in government, and these principles form the foundation of the United States Government today;

Whereas American Indian societies have exhibited a respect for the finiteness of natural resources through deep respect for the earth, and these values continue to be widely held today;

Whereas American Indian people have served with valor in all wars from the Revolutionary War to the conflict in the Persian Gulf, often in a percentage well above their percentage in the population of the Nation as a whole;

Whereas American Indians have made distinct and important contributions to America and the rest of the world in many fields, including agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art;

Whereas American Indians deserve to be recognized for their individual contributions to American society as artists, sculptors, musicians, authors, poets, artisans, scientists, and scholars;

Whereas designating the month of November in each of calendar years 1993 and 1994 to recognize the heritage and the contributions to American society of American Indians will encourage self-esteem, pride, and self-awareness in American Indians of all ages; and

Whereas November is traditionally the month when American Indians have harvested their crops and is generally a time of celebration and giving thanks: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That—*

(1) the month of November in each of calendar years 1993 and 1994 is designated as "National American Indian Heritage Month"; and

(2) the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation in each of those years calling on the people of the United States to observe such month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved November 2, 1994.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.J. Res. 271:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 139 (1993): Nov. 2, considered and passed House.  
Vol. 140 (1994): Oct. 6, considered and passed Senate.