

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 296

Rep. Rheingans offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the  
2 signing of Michigan Indian Day.

3           Whereas, The state of Michigan is home to many people  
4 indigenous to the Americas, sometimes referred to as Native  
5 American, Indian, or First Nation; and

6           Whereas, Michigan's current borders include the twelve  
7 federally recognized tribal nations with each having a unique and  
8 independent government with different management and decision-  
9 making structures which exercise sovereign authority; and

10           Whereas, Public Act 30 of 1974 established the fourth Friday  
11 in September as Indian Day in Michigan; and

12           Whereas, The people of the state of Michigan benefit from an

1 understanding of the historical and contemporary lives of those who  
2 came before us and currently live on these pleasant peninsulas; and

3       Whereas, Our shared history of the place we call Michigan  
4 dates back approximately 14,000 years to the time before the last  
5 glacier retreated from the land, and humans, including the  
6 Anishinaabeg, populated the area. Our tribal partners pass along  
7 the history of these first people; and

8       Whereas, In 2002, the State of Michigan and federally  
9 recognized tribal nations entered into a government-to-government  
10 accord, providing a framework for a government-to-government  
11 partnership that recognizes that the parties share a responsibility  
12 to provide for and protect the health, safety, and welfare of their  
13 common citizens. The 2002 accord sought to enhance and improve  
14 communication between the parties, foster respect for their  
15 sovereign status, and facilitate the resolution of potentially  
16 contentious issues; and

17       Whereas, In 2019, the Governor signed Executive Directive  
18 2019-17, to further strengthen relations between the State of  
19 Michigan and the federally recognized tribal nations. The Directive  
20 reaffirmed the commitments made during the 2002 accord, reiterated  
21 tribal sovereignty, and ordered each Executive Branch department  
22 and agency to seek consultation on any actions or decisions that  
23 they make that would impact any of the tribes; and

24       Whereas, In 2023, the State of Michigan designated Manoomin as  
25 the state's official native grain, honoring its contemporary,  
26 historical, cultural, and spiritual significance to the Indigenous  
27 peoples that have lived here for thousands of years; and

28       Whereas, Michigan is honored to have twelve federally  
29 recognized tribes within its borders: the Bay Mills Chippewa

1 Community, the Grand Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa and Chippewa  
2 Indians, the Hannahville Indian Community, the Keweenaw Bay Indian  
3 Community, the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa  
4 Indians, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, the Little  
5 Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, the Match-e-be-nash-she-wish  
6 Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan, the Nottawaseppi Huron Band  
7 of Potawatomi Indians, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, the  
8 Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of  
9 Chippewa Indians; and

10       Whereas, The state of Michigan and our tribal partners have  
11 engaged in many fruitful and cooperative efforts to improve the  
12 lives of our citizens and Michigan Indian Day is an annual  
13 opportunity to honor those accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

14       Resolved, That the members of this legislative body  
15 commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of Michigan Indian  
16 Day. We recognize the significant contributions of Indian nations,  
17 their citizens, and predecessors to our great state's rich history  
18 and bright future; and be it further

19       Resolved, That our common future will be improved with  
20 thorough cooperation and communication between tribal and state  
21 leadership.