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Approved as to Form and Legality

**DRAFT**  
City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER GALLO

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**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2015 AS  
"NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH" CELEBRATING  
THE HERITAGES AND CULTURES OF NATIVE AMERICANS AND THE  
CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICANS TO THE UNITED STATES**

**WHEREAS**, the history and culture of our great nation have been significantly influenced by American Indians and Indigenous peoples; and

**WHEREAS**, the first stewards of our environment, early voices for the values that define our Nation, and models of government to our Founding Fathers – American Indians helped build the very fabric of America and have enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness of our Nation today; and

**WHEREAS**, as we celebrate the rich traditions of the original peoples of what is now the United States, we cannot forget the long and unfortunate chapters of violence, discrimination, and deprivation they had to endure. For far too long, the heritage we honor today was disrespected and devalued, and Native Americans were told their land, religion, and language were not theirs to keep. We cannot ignore these events or erase their consequences for Native peoples -- but as we work together to forge a brighter future, the lessons of our past can help reaffirm the principles that guide our Nation today; and

**WHEREAS**, Today, as community and tribal leaders, members of our Armed Forces, and drivers of progress and economic growth, American Indians and Alaska Natives are working to carry forward their proud history; and

**WHEREAS**, The Affordable Care Act provides access to quality, affordable health insurance, and it permanently reauthorized the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which provides care to many Native Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, As of July 2015, there are 567 Native American tribes in the United States who exhibit unique cultures and contributions to our community; and

**WHEREAS**, American Indian Child Resource Center (AICRC), is a nonprofit, social services, youth services, and Indian education agency serving urban Indian children and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, Governed by a voluntary Board of directors comprised of American Indian members who are knowledgeable about historical and contemporary issues facing American Indian families, AICRC has grown and thrived over 38 years. AICRC currently provides services in the greater Bay Area, Sacramento County and surrounding counties with a focus on the City of Oakland for the youth services and education programs; and

**WHEREAS**, **United Indian Nations** provides employment counseling, job placement and training primarily for unemployed, underemployed or low-income American Indian or Alaskan Native adults; and

**WHEREAS**, **United Indian Nations** offers classroom training in public or private vocational training schools, and pays cost of transportation, books and classroom training allowance; provides assistance in locating on-the-job training and General Education Development (GED) classes; as well as provides classroom training and individual technical assistance to low-income Indian people who would like to establish their own microbusinesses, through the American Indian Self-Employment Project; and

**WHEREAS**, Every American, including every Native American, deserves the chance to work hard and get ahead. In the month of November, we recognize the limitless potential of our tribal nations, and we continue our work to build a world where all people are valued and no child ever has to wonder if he or she has a place in our society; now, therefore be it,

**RESOLVED:** that the Oakland City Council recognizes November 2015 as National Native American Heritage Month celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americas and acknowledges the contributions of the Native American people to the Unites States of America.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL-WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLÉN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID AND  
PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the  
City of Oakland, California