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LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-fifth Legislature Second Regular Session - 2020

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1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NA-
3 TIVE AMERICANS TO THE STATE AND FURTHER RECOGNIZING THAT THE LEGISLA-
4 TURE DISCOURAGES REMOVAL OF NAMES, IMAGES, OR SYMBOLS OF NATIVE AMERI-
5 CANS FROM SCHOOLS OR OTHER PLACES.

6 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 WHEREAS, Idaho has a long history of positive contributions of Native
8 Americans and American Indian tribes in the state; and

9 WHEREAS, there are schools or other places within the state that use
10 names, images, or symbols of Native Americans or other indigenous people;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, use of these names, images, or symbols can be authentic, appro-
13 priate, and accurate when used carefully with cultural sensitivity; and

14 WHEREAS, there are over 500 different tribes in the nation with varied
15 cultures, histories, beliefs, languages, and dialects that should be accu-
16 rately reflected when names, images, or symbols are used by schools or places
17 in this state; and

18 WHEREAS, there are Native Americans who want to preserve positive
19 names, images, or symbols that give tribute to American Indian culture; and

20 WHEREAS, a national Native American entity, the Native American
21 Guardian's Association, represents the sentiment of the silenced majority
22 of individual Native peoples whose voices have been suppressed and ignored
23 by activist forces; and

24 WHEREAS, the Native American Guardian's Association supports the ap-
25 propriate use of Native American names, imagery, or symbols and promotes the
26 phrase "educate not eradicate"; and

27 WHEREAS, as demonstrated by a 2019 survey of individual Native Ameri-
28 cans that compliments a 2016 poll conducted by the Washington Post finding
29 that 90% of Native Americans are not offended by the Redskins nickname, a
30 significant number of individual Native Americans have no problem with or
31 support the respectful use of Native American names and imagery in sports;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, schools or others using names, images, or symbols of Native
34 Americans or other indigenous people can be educated, including by local
35 Native American tribes, on how to use these names, images, or symbols in
36 non-offensive, culturally appropriate ways; and

37 WHEREAS, the contributions of Native Americans to the state should be
38 acknowledged.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-
40 sion of the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and
41 the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature supports the appropri-
42 ate use of names, images, or symbols of Native Americans or other indigenous
43 people by schools or other places.

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Idaho, dis-
2 courages removal of names, images, or symbols of Native Americans or other
3 indigenous people by schools or other places, unless after a careful and
4 effective public process, the appropriate government entity determines that
5 there is a consensus amongst the affected individual Native American or
6 other indigenous people that a name, image, or symbol should be removed.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the
8 Native American Guardian's Association, the Association of Idaho Cities,
9 and the Idaho Association of Counties for distribution to all their con-
10 stituents, as well as to each school district and public college and univer-
11 sity in the state.