

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5739

To prohibit Federal funds from being provided to any State or local government that celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day instead of Columbus Day, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 10, 2025

Mr. RULLI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To prohibit Federal funds from being provided to any State or local government that celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day instead of Columbus Day, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Italian Heroes and
5 Heritage Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Christopher Columbus set sail 533 years
9 ago in 1492 to bravely cross the Atlantic Ocean and

1 discovered new land that would soon after become
2 known as America.

3 (2) President Benjamin Harrison founded
4 Christopher Columbus day in 1892 to honor Chris-
5 topher Columbus's voyage and the 11 Italian-Ameri-
6 cans murdered by a New Orleans lynch mob due to
7 suspicion and hatred of Italian-Americans.

8 (3) The 11 people brutally murdered were
9 Italian-American cobbler Pietro Monasterio; fruit
10 importer Joseph P. Macheca; fruit peddlers Antonio
11 Bagnetto, Antonio Marchesi, Antonio Scaffidi; rice
12 plantation laborer Charles Traina; stevedores James
13 Caruso and Rocco Geraci; street vendor Emmanuele
14 Polizzi; tinsmith Loreto Comitisi; and ward politician
15 Frank Romero.

16 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
17 gress that October 13th should continue to be celebrated
18 nationwide as Christopher Columbus Day, as it has been
19 since 1892, to honor our Italian-American heritage and
20 our forefather, Christopher Columbus, who helped to dis-
21 cover this great land.

1 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON PROVIDING FEDERAL FUNDS TO**
2 **LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THAT CELEBRATE IN-**
3 **DIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY INSTEAD OF CO-**
4 **LUMBUS DAY.**

5 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during
6 the 1-year period beginning after October 13, 2025, and
7 each Columbus Day (as described in section 6103(a) of
8 title 5, United States Code) thereafter, no Federal funds
9 may be obligated, expended, or otherwise dispursed to any
10 State or unit of local government that celebrates Indige-
11 nous Peoples Day in lieu of Columbus Day.

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