

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 20**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

INTRODUCED MARCH 7, 1996

**By Senator LIPMAN**

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the fourth Friday in September as  
2 "Native American Day."

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4 **WHEREAS**, Native Americans were the original inhabitants of New  
5 Jersey and were of great influence on the cultural and agricultural  
6 development of this State; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Native Americans, who had formed clearings and trails  
8 prior to the arrival of the colonists, made possible the formation of  
9 the very earliest colonial towns; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Many early settlements would have become extinct if the  
11 Native Americans had not supplied the colonists with food or  
12 guided the people to profitable hunting grounds; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Native Americans cultivated and developed many  
14 agricultural products such as corn, squash, beans, and tobacco and  
15 the method of growing them; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Many towns, streams, lakes and mountains in New Jersey  
17 still retain the original Native American names from pre-colonial  
18 times; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Native Americans today continue to share a rich cultural  
20 tradition with all the people of New Jersey; now, therefore,

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22 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
23 *of New Jersey:*

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25 1. The fourth Friday of September of every year shall be dedicated  
26 and proclaimed as "Native American Day."

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28 2. The citizenry of this State is urged to observe "Native American  
29 Day" by recognizing the important part Native Americans played in the  
30 development of New Jersey and the continuing contributions of Native  
31 Americans today in New Jersey.

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33 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

This joint resolution designates the fourth Friday in September in each year as "Native American Day" and urges the citizenry of the State to observe the day by recognizing the important part Native Americans played in the development of New Jersey and the continuing contributions of Native Americans today in the State.

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Designates the fourth Friday in September "Native American Day."