



NEW VIRGINIA MAJORITY
Democracy, Justice, Progress

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NEWVIRGINIAMAJORITY.ORG

April 29, 2024

To:

The Honorable Mark Warner
The Honorable Tim Kaine
The Honorable Rob Wittman
The Honorable Jen Kiggans
The Honorable Bobby Scott
The Honorable Jennifer McClellan
The Honorable Bob Good
The Honorable Ben Cline
The Honorable Abigail Spanberger
The Honorable Don Beyer
The Honorable Morgan Griffith
The Honorable Jennifer Wexton
The Honorable Gerry Connolly

Re: Indigenous Peoples' Day

Dear Members of Congress and Virginia Delegation:

As one of Virginia's largest civic engagement organizations, we urge you to support the Indigenous Peoples' Day legislation introduced in the 118th US Congress; House Bill 5822 and Senate Bill 2970.

New Virginia Majority is a movement that builds power in working-class communities of color across the Commonwealth to create a democratic, just, and sustainable Virginia. The recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day follows organizing by Indigenous peoples since the 1970s. Supporting the legislation creates an opportunity to reconcile the harms caused by our nation, such as The Trail of Tears, the forced relocation of 100,000 Indigenous people from their homelands in the Southeast to present-day Oklahoma between 1830 and 1850.

Virginia is home to seven federally recognized tribes. Honoring Indigenous Peoples' Day is a first step forward in righting the wrongs of our nation's history by taking collective action and celebrating Indigenous communities. In pursuit of reconciliation, we request the support of the entire Virginia Congressional delegation.

Sincerely,