



Municipality of Anchorage

Office of the Mayor

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

February 5, 2016

House State Affairs Committee
Attn: Representative Lynn
c/o Representative Drummond
State Capitol, Room 112
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Chair Lynn,

As Mayor of Anchorage, I support Representative Drummond's effort to create an Indigenous Peoples Day as an annual day of honor for Alaska's first peoples. My administration is proud to have designated October 12, 2015, as Indigenous Peoples Day, and we appreciate that Representative Drummond is endeavoring to make that an annual tradition on the state level.

As Alaska's "biggest village," with more than 23,000 Native Alaskans calling Anchorage home, the Municipality of Anchorage recognizes the important role that Alaska Native communities and traditions have in our city's identity.

Representative Drummond's Indigenous Peoples Day legislation will encourage all Alaskans to support this annual celebration and remind all of us about the strength of Alaska's roots, and the values to guide us towards our future.

Sincerely,

Ethan Berkowitz
Mayor