



Resolution No.: 25-368

Adopt Resolution Declaring Every October 12 as **Indigenous Peoples Day** in Monterey County )  
and **Commending California Rural Legal Assistance's Indigenous Program**..... )

**WHEREAS**, The cultural and governmental contributions of the Indigenous Peoples of Monterey County have shaped the course of the county throughout history; and

**WHEREAS**, Monterey County Native Americans, including Ohlone Costanoan, Esselen, Rumsien, Salinan and Amah Mutsun Nations, and other Indigenous Peoples have contributed and continue to contribute immeasurably to our county's history, diversity, economy, and culture by distinguishing themselves as academics, entrepreneurs, professionals and leaders, to name a few, and have contributed over thirteen-thousand years of cultural, economic and environmental traditions to the history of the Monterey Bay Region; and

**WHEREAS**, **Indigenous Peoples Day** is celebrated by tribes and communities across our nation, and is a day for educators to teach factual Indigenous history; and

**WHEREAS**, The County of Monterey recognizes that Indigenous Nations lived upon lands since time immemorial and values the progress our society has achieved through contributions of Indigenous Peoples in technology, business, law, medicine, education, the arts and the United States Armed Forces, to name just a few; and

**WHEREAS**, The County of Monterey understands that to help heal and close the wounds incurred throughout history, government entities should change policies and practices to reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, and uplift our county's Indigenous roots, history and contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, The County of Monterey recognizes the unique history and historical knowledge of the local native Indigenous Peoples whose customs and traditions are respected and celebrated as part of the rich legacy throughout our area; and

**WHEREAS**, **Indigenous Peoples Day** was first proposed in 1977, by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

**WHEREAS**, As the County of Monterey joins a growing number of local governments that have recognized Indigenous Peoples Day, creating opportunity to promote appreciation, tolerance, understanding, friendship, among Indigenous Peoples and all county residents; and

**WHEREAS**, The California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) Indigenous Program (IP) stands as the sole legal services initiative in California dedicated exclusively to protecting the legal rights of Indigenous Latino American communities; and

**WHEREAS**, California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) advocates for the language access rights of Indigenous communities by delivering legal support, multilingual outreach, and comprehensive training to state agencies and service providers. These efforts aim to ensure meaningful and equitable access to essential services for Indigenous populations in California. Through its Language Justice Initiative and Indigenous Program (IP), CRLA actively works to eliminate language barriers and promote the availability of critical services including healthcare and government programs in Indigenous languages such as Mixteco, Triqui, and Zapotec; and

**WHEREAS**, The Indigenous Program team serves the community through a comprehensive approach including direct legal services, outreach efforts, Know Your Rights trainings, and systemic impact litigation throughout rural California.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, proclaims every October 12, as **Indigenous Peoples Day** in Monterey County and encourages all residents to participate in appropriate observances with activities that celebrate and commemorate Indigenous Peoples.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that County of Monterey commends **California Rural Legal Assistance's Indigenous Program** for its legal rights and language rights advocacy on behalf of indigenous communities throughout Monterey County and rural California.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025



Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez

Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

Supervisor Glenn Church

Supervisor Luis A. Alejo

Supervisor Kate Daniels