



## **Statement from President Dylan Baca and Vice President Madeline Jones on The Importance of Indigenous Peoples' Day**

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PHOENIX- This October 12th will be Indigenous Peoples' day after Governor Douglas Ducey has signed president Baca's and vice president Jones' Proclamation calling to recognize Indigenous Peoples' day and honor the contributions of Native Americans. Americans. Dylan Baca and Madeline Jones have partnered with Arizona Senator Jamescita Peshlakai and United States Congresswoman Norma Torres of California to sponsor legislation on the federal and state levels.

Statement by President Baca, “ The celebration of Indigenous Peoples' day alone will not alleviate poverty on reservations, it will not eliminate domestic violence, or terminate every instance of discrimination. Those things are up to us. The decisions and choices we make require us to speak out until our values are fully reflected in our laws and communities. What Indigenous Peoples' day does show us, is an example of tangible progress, that illustrates that even in the face of oppression, We have moved forward. It is my hope that this day will help alleviate the effects of oppression and work to create future generations that understand the importance of Native Americans and other marginalized populations in hopes of creating a more unified state, nation, and global community.”

Statement by Vice President Jones, “Today is Indigenous Peoples day! We're getting there. I hope that celebrating this day will help Americans learn the truthful version of history, and help to dismantle harmful stereotypes placed on Indigenous people.”