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A resolution by Supervisors Taylor (2), Alexander, and Dimitrijevic to recognize November as Native American Heritage Month, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is home to 11 Federally recognized tribes: Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin, Oneida Nation, Forest County Potawatomi, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, St. Croix Chippewa, Sokaogon Chippewa (Mole Lake), and Stockbridge-Munsee, in addition to other, Non-Federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, approximately 14 percent of Wisconsin’s Native American and Alaskan Native population reside in Milwaukee County (the County); and

WHEREAS, Native Americans made the County their home long before the land was known as the County, and well before the first European explorers reached this region; and

WHEREAS, it is thought that the name “Milwaukee” is derived from Native American language, some saying it means “Good”, “Beautiful”, and “Pleasant Land”, while others believe it means "Gathering Place by the Waters"; and

WHEREAS, the Native American community is actively involved in social and cultural aspects of the County, adding to its diversity, and continuing to work to improve the health and education of the community; and

WHEREAS, the County is home to the world-renown Milwaukee Public Museum’s “A Tribute to Survival” and “Celebrations of Culture”, exhibits that celebrate Native American culture and contributions to the community; and

WHEREAS, Indian Summer Festival, held in the County, is the largest Native American Festival in North America, which endeavors to preserve and promote the history of the American Indian, to celebrate the diversity that exists within many tribal cultures, while creating greater communication and understanding between Indian and non-Indian people; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans have served with valor in public service and all branches of government; and

44 WHEREAS, Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity for the County to
45 recognize the many contributions and achievements of Native Americans and Alaskan
46 Natives that have helped shape the social, political, environmental, and economic fabric
47 of the County while also enhancing prosperity and cultural diversity; and

48
49 WHEREAS, the Committee on Health and Human Needs, at its meeting of
50 December 7, 2016, recommended adoption of this resolution (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

51
52 BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County (the County) joins other jurisdictions
53 across the nation in celebrating Native American Heritage Month in the month of
54 November, and celebrating the unique heritage, contributions, and achievements of
55 Native Americans in the County and across the nation.

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