

**IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI**

**A RESOLUTION** recognizing the accomplishments and achievements of the American Indians and Alaska Natives in our community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18005**, October 29, 2012

**INTRODUCED BY** Theresa Garza Ruiz, County Legislator

WHEREAS, November is National American Indian Heritage Month and presents an opportunity to honor the generations of American Indians and Alaska Natives who have added to the foundation of the character of our nation; and,

WHEREAS, there are over 560 federally recognized American Indian Tribes in the United States with thousands of American Indians residing in Jackson County; and,

WHEREAS, approximately forty-nine percent of the estimated 26,000 American Indians living in Jackson County are living at or below the poverty line; and,

WHEREAS, the American Indians in the Midwest experienced the greatest increase in unemployment during the current recession, compared to other areas of the United States, growing by 10.3 percent to a 19.3 percent unemployment rate; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the American Indian Enterprise & Business Council (AIEBC) is to be open to all people who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or have community recognition as American Indians or Alaska Natives and who are

committed to the cultural development, career advancement, education, understanding, and the general well-being of American Indians; and,

WHEREAS, the AIEBC is working to address the American Indian needs in our community through the creation of a business incubator program, the development of a job-skills training program, and providing transitional housing for those in need; and,

WHEREAS, the AIEBC hopes to provide the American Indian community with a sustainable model for successful integration into the U.S. economy as employees and business owners; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, that the Legislature hereby proclaims November 2012 as American Indian Month in Jackson County and urges all citizens of Jackson County to celebrate and honor the accomplishments and rich ancestry and traditions of the American Indian community.

Effective Date: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage by a majority of the Legislature.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

*Jay P. Hall*  
Chief Deputy County Counselor

*W. Allyn Nix*  
County Counselor

Certificate of Passage

I hereby certify that the attached resolution, Resolution No. 18005 of October 29, 2012, was duly passed on October 29, 2012 by the Jackson County Legislature. The votes thereon were as follows:

Yeas 9  
0  
Abstaining \_\_\_\_\_

Nays 0  
Absent 0

10/29/12  
Date

*Mary Jo Spino*  
Mary Jo Spino, Clerk of Legislature