



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Rep. Bowen introduces Indigenous Peoples Day legislation**  
*Lawmaker joins Indian Community School students to announce bill*

MILWAUKEE – Rep. David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) visited Indian Community School today where, along with advocates, community leaders, educators, and students, he introduced legislation declaring the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in October Indigenous Peoples Day. Bowen issued the following statement:

“I’m proud to introduce this measure honoring the people who lived for centuries on North America and here in Wisconsin before the so-called discovery of America by European explorers.

“This legislation will give the state a real opportunity to celebrate and learn more about the native people who call Wisconsin home and are such an important part of our state’s heritage.”

Last year, students at Indian Community School drafted a resolution which was approved by the Milwaukee County Board recognizing Indigenous Peoples Day. Allison Jornlin, a teacher at Indian Community School, led the students in their effort.

“Our students’ success at the county level demonstrates that children don’t need to wait until they are adults to make a difference,” said Jornlin. “We are excited to take this effort to the state level with Rep. Bowen leading the charge, and hope a bipartisan showing of legislators will join together to celebrate Wisconsin’s native populations. Ultimately, we hope to see Indigenous Peoples Day permanently replace Columbus Day on the federal level.”

Rep. Bowen’s Indigenous Peoples Day legislation is circulating now for fellow legislators to cosponsor. Interested citizens may find and contact their legislators at [www.legis.wi.gov](http://www.legis.wi.gov) and encourage them to cosponsor the bill.

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