

*ATTENTION ITALIAN AMERICANS of COOK COUNTY:*

*The Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans needs your help in saving the Columbus Day holiday in Cook County.  An ordinance has been proposed that replaces Columbus Day with Indigenous People's Day.  We need you to send your sentiments to YOUR Cook County Commissioner.  Or simply use the letter provided in this packet.*

1. Please fill in the correct date and address the letter to your Cook County Commissioner found on the last page of this document and mail it to them today!
2. Don’t know who your Cook County Commissioner is? Please refer to the map below and the list of corresponding commissioners to identify your Commissioner.
3. Mailing letters really does help the Commissioner’s hear our concerns.

Thank you for your participation in this important campaign to preserve Columbus Day in Cook County, IL.

~Ron Onesti

JCCIA President | president@jccia.com

**Toni Preckwinkle**

**President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners**

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The last page of this document is the letter we need you to fill out, sign and mail to your Cook County Commissioner. If you can edit this document, please fill in the date, add the Commissioner’s full name, District # and address below the date, and address the letter to “Commissioner \_\_\_\_(last name)”. Finally, please sign your full name and provide your mailing address to the letter and/or the envelope.

Thank you!

Ron Onesti

JCCIA President

president@jccia.com

May \_\_, 2021

Dear Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I live in your district and I am concerned about Resolution 21-0565, which seeks to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous People’s Day. I am opposed to passage of this resolution.

I firmly believe in the celebration of ones’ cultural heritage, but not at the expense of another. There are already four separate dates and occasions that celebrate Indigenous People on the local and national level, therefore, confiscating Columbus Day is not fair, nor acceptable.

Former Governor Bruce Rauner signed into law Indigenous People’s Day which is celebrated on the last Monday in September. There is also National and International Indigenous People’s Day, and Native American History Month in November. I fail to see where another day of celebration is warranted by taking away the ONLY day Italian Americans have.

I am proud of my heritage and would never tell anyone else how to celebrate it or whom they should celebrate.

I appreciate your time and once again encourage you to vote no to passage of this unfair resolution.

Sincerely,