



The LGBTQIA Alliance of Vermont is comprised of representatives from a range of LGBTQIA organizations and individuals from the broader Vermont community. Our mission is to anticipate and collaboratively respond to proposed & enacted laws, policies, actions, and community-level crises that impact on LGBTQIA Vermonters.

The Alliance provides expert advice to elected officials, political activists, state agencies, community based & professional organizations, and other interested parties on representing and protecting the interests and rights of LGBTQIA Vermonters. The group seeks to fairly represent the collective voice of LGBTQIA Vermonters through advocacy, community building, education, and representation.

To: House Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs

From: Keith E Goslant/Chair LGBTQIA Alliance of Vermont

Re: Support for S.68

The LGBTQIA Alliance of Vermont stands in unity with our Native American siblings and offers this statement of support for S.68: An act relating to Indigenous Peoples' Day, and the acknowledgement it offers in celebration of Native American cultures and Native American resiliency throughout a history of oppression. When passed by the VT Legislature, this bill will provide an explicit recognition of VT's Native American peoples.

The Alliance echo statements made by other organizations that have promoted similar changes in other states and provinces, that, "renaming the October holiday to Indigenous People's Day has the power to transform the day into a celebration of the cultures, histories, and present-day lived experiences of Abenaki people and other original inhabitants of the Americas."

The Alliance believes that communities of Indigenous peoples living on land we now call Vermont, and Indigenous peoples all around the country and the world, deserve this recognition. This day of celebration. We urge the VT Legislature to vote in favor of this change.