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(Regional)-Nation Celebrates Columbus Day, S.D. Celebrates Native American Day



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/08/2012 11:25 AM

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) - It's Columbus Day in the United States, but it's Native American Day in South Dakota.

The state Legislature in 1989 approved the change proposed by then-Gov. George Mickelson. South Dakota is the only state that celebrates Native American Day on Columbus Day.

Dani Daugherty grew up on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. She says that Native American Day is a time to recognize the resiliency and the contributions of native peoples.

But others have mixed feelings. Standing Rock Sioux member Gordon Tree Tropic says he remembers being teased by classmates when he was growing up because he had his "own day."