

January 9, 2020

The Honorable Representative Adrienne Benavidez
Colorado State Capitol
200 E Colfax, RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
United States
(303) 866-2964

RE: HB20-1031 establishment of a new state holiday in place of Columbus Day;
Cabrini Day Colorado

Dear Representative Benavidez,

I am writing to you about the establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado in place of Columbus Day in our state. I believe the establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado as a state holiday, observed on the first Monday of October annually is an opportunity to bring Colorado together to celebrate kindness, compassion and community in Colorado.

I am a 5th generation Italian American in Colorado, active in my community, a historian, parent and concerned citizen. With regards to Columbus Day, my concerns stem from a desire to remove Columbus as the Italian American representative. To remove the shame Columbus brings, and replace it with a worthy and honorable representative that can truly highlight the positive and significant contributions by Italian Americans to our state.

Further, Columbus Day for many years now, has been a serious point of contention, one that continues to divide Colorado. Cabrini Day as imagined by a number of Colorado Italian Americans (and others), has the potential to unite Colorado. A celebration not only of Italian American culture, heritage and legacy, Cabrini Day offers the opportunity to celebrate all of the rich cultures in our state. By celebrating many cultures, the potential for discovering commonality arises in our community. Commonality based on a shared desire to honor where we come from, who we are today and how we can work together for a better future.

Cabrini Day as imagined celebrates an immigrant, naturalized in Colorado, a woman (the first to join the men on Colorado's state holiday list) and perhaps most important, a humanitarian who set a beautiful example for others thru her desire to help, educate and in general uplift those in need. I can imagine a day that I personally would want to participate in. One that brings together a community to celebrate the state's largest naturalization ceremony, followed by a fun run whose proceeds support those in need and a community gathering that offers Coloradans the opportunity to meet and share stories about the communities and families they come from. A day promoting kindness and compassion. A day of service and giving back. A day promoting the things we have in common. A day to unite Colorado. Cabrini Day.

Please do what you can, in your capacity, to make sure this important issue gets the attention and support it deserves. I truly believe now is the time for Cabrini Day to replace Columbus Day. Please act now and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alisa DiGiacomo".

Alisa DiGiacomo, co-committee chair, Coloradans for Cabrini Day
6089 Quail Street
Arvada, Colorado 80004
alias.digiacomoco@gmail.com
(303) 408-0873

January 9, 2020

The Honorable Representative Adrienne Benávidez
Colorado State Capitol
200 E Colfax, RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
United States
(303) 866-2964

RE: HB20-1031 establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado as a state holiday to replace
Columbus Day

Dear Representative Benavidez,

I am writing to request your support for the establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado in place of Columbus Day in our state. I believe the establishment of Cabrini Day as a Colorado state holiday, observed on the first Monday of October annually, is an opportunity to bring Colorado together to celebrate kindness, compassion and community.

The life and impact of Mother Cabrini has been deeply meaningful and an inspiration to my family for generations. I believe celebrating her life story and influence is beneficial to all caring citizens of Colorado. This request to remove Columbus as the Italian American representative and replace it with an honorable representative, is a positive, proactive approach that all Coloradoans can unite with rather than avoid something that has become increasingly controversial. Having a day centered around promoting kindness, compassion, service and giving back, is something we can all be proud of. A day to remember a life well lived and unite Colorado under the same passion of spirit.

Please do what you can, in your capacity, to make sure this important issue gets the attention and support it deserves. I truly believe now is the time for Cabrini Day to replace Columbus Day. Please act now and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Del Hierro
2022 N High St.
Denver co. 80205
cdelhierro@confluenceministries.org
303-898-4492

January 9, 2020

The Honorable Representative Adrienne Benavidez
Colorado State Capitol
200 E Colfax, RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
United States
(303) 866-2964

RE: HB20-1031 establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado as a state holiday to replace
Columbus Day

Dear Representative Benavidez,

As a native of Colorado and of Italian decent, I am writing to request your support for the establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado in place of Columbus Day in our state. I want to see continued pride in recognizing and remembering Italian heritage. However, I totally support inclusion of others. I believe establishment of Cabrini Day as a Colorado state holiday, observed on the first Monday of October could be the catalyst to unite and celebrate diversity. It is my hope that the annual celebration could bring Coloradoan's together to celebrate both Italian heritage and that of all individuals as proud Americans.

Please do what you can to make sure this issue gets the attention and support it deserves. I truly believe now is the time for Cabrini Day to replace Columbus Day. As an Italian American, it is time to cement a unified day to celebrate ancestry for my grandchildren, and the decedents of all Coloradoan's. Please act now and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fran Sawyer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Name Fran Sawyer
Address 6095 W 46th Ave, Wheat Ridge Colo 80033
Email flsja3@aol.com
Phone 303-504-5569

January 29, 2020

The Honorable Representative Adrienne Benavidez
Colorado State Capitol
200 E Colfax, RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
United States
(303) 866-2964

RE: HB20-1031 establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado as a state holiday to replace Columbus Day

Dear Representative Benavidez,

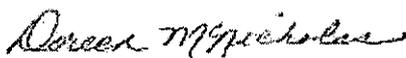
I am writing to request your support for the establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado in place of Columbus Day in our state. I believe the establishment of Cabrini Day as a Colorado state holiday, observed on the first Monday of October annually, is an opportunity to bring Colorado together to celebrate kindness, compassion and community in Colorado...an opportunity for our State to recognize and embrace a positive legacy.

This subject is important to me because I am not only a native of Colorado, but also a retired federal employee and a 5th generation Italian American who has studied the history of Columbus' voyages as well as the history of Native Americans and the genocidal aftermath suffered by various indigenous people resulting from the voyages of Christopher Columbus. Although some can argue that honoring this day recognizes the beginning of the cultural exchange between Europe and America, many others can argue this time is actually an extremely dark chapter in American and European history. Christopher Columbus was no hero to be admired.

For our great state to alternatively recognize Cabrini Day would mean recognizing the humanitarian actions of a true historical hero who had direct connections to our state. Cabrini Day would provide the opportunity to recognize these connections and Mother Cabrini's endless humanitarian work with immigrants, the poor and those in need. Cabrini Day would be one bringing together the many cultures within our state; a day of unity, kindness, respect and compassion for all our cultures.

Please do what you can, in your capacity, to make sure this important issue gets the attention and support it deserves. I truly believe now is the time for Cabrini Day to replace Columbus Day. Please act now and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Doreen McNicholas



16988 W. 73 PL
Arvada, CO 80007
doreenmcnicholas@gmail.com
303-8777-3688

January 28, 2020

The Honorable Representative Adrienne Benavidez
Colorado State Capitol
200 E Colfax, RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
United States
(303) 866-2964

RE: HB20-1031 establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado as a state holiday to replace Columbus Day

Dear Representative Benavidez,

I am writing to request your support for the establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado in place of Columbus Day in our state. I believe the establishment of Cabrini Day as a Colorado state holiday, observed on the first Monday of October annually, is an opportunity to bring Colorado together to celebrate kindness, compassion and community in Colorado.

A Colorado resident with Hispanic heritage, Mother Cabrini holds a special place for me as my grandmother felt a personal connection with her. I welcome the opportunity to remember my grandmother and celebrate her life with my children and others on Cabrini Day. This is the right path forward. A day to acknowledge Colorado's commonality, while celebrating our uniqueness sounds wonderful.

Please do what you can, in your capacity, to make sure this important issue gets the attention and support it deserves. I truly believe now is the time for Cabrini Day to replace Columbus Day. Please act now and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Paul Rodriguez Sr.
5604 Kipling Parkway, Unit 104
Arvada, Colorado 80004
paul@coloradodesignlab.com
(303) 475-1272

February 1, 2020

The Honorable Representative Adrienne Benavidez
Colorado State Capitol
200 E Colfax, RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
United States
(303) 866-2964

RE: HB20-1031 establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado as a state holiday to replace Columbus Day

Dear Representative Benavidez,

I am writing to request your support for the replacement of Columbus Day with Cabrini Day as a Colorado State holiday to be observed annually on the first Monday of October.

I have taught for thirty- five years and nearly every year taught a course on American Immigration History. I have seen the enthusiasm students have to learn about their heritage and the overall immigration picture of our country. Over the years we have witnessed the growing dissension over the observance of Columbus Day. Rather than a celebration for Italians and their rich heritage it has become a point of anger and contention. Italian culture would be much better represented by the compassionate and humanitarian figure of Mother Cabrini. This could be an occasion for the community to come together and share immigrant stories of all ethnicities through a variety of activities. Mother Cabrini is a symbol of kindness, generosity, and love for people of all ethnic backgrounds for she did not limit her good works to just those of Italian background. I therefore heartily support the effort to replace Columbus Day with Cabrini Day and urge you to move this proposal forward in the state legislature by whatever process is appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Janet E. Worrall
Professor Emerita
University of Northern Colorado
jeworrall@hotmail.com
720.450.4725

February 2, 2020

The Honorable Representative Adrienne Benavidez
Colorado State Capitol
200 E Colfax, RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
United States
(303) 866-2964

RE: HB20-1031 establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado as a state holiday to replace Columbus Day

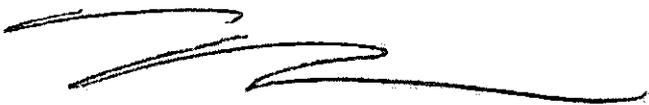
Dear Representative Benavidez,

I am writing to request your support for the establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado in place of Columbus Day in our state. I believe the establishment of Cabrini Day as a Colorado state holiday, observed on the first Monday of October annually, is an opportunity to bring Colorado together to celebrate kindness, compassion and community in Colorado.

As an active member of Colorado's Irish American community I welcome the opportunity to celebrate my heritage with others. I am also an active member of my parish, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and appreciate the potential for the ways in which my parish could participate, including with other Colorado parishes and denominations.

Please do what you can, in your capacity, to make sure this important issue gets the attention and support it deserves. I truly believe now is the time for Cabrini Day to replace Columbus Day. Please act now and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Kevin J. Zahller
4515 W 61st Place
Arvada, Colorado 80003
creideamh@hotmail.com



February 3, 2020

The Honorable Representative Adrienne Benavidez
Colorado State Capitol
200 E Colfax, RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
United States
(303) 866-2964

RE: HB20-1031 establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado as a state holiday to replace Columbus Day

Dear Representative Benavidez,

I am writing to request your support for the establishment of Cabrini Day in Colorado in place of Columbus Day in our state. I believe the establishment of Cabrini Day as a Colorado state holiday, observed on the first Monday of October annually, is an opportunity to bring Colorado together to celebrate kindness, compassion and community in Colorado.

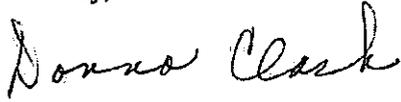
I am a 4th generation Italian American, active in my community and a concerned citizen. With regards to Columbus Day, my concerns stem from a desire to remove Columbus as the Italian American representative. To remove the harm Columbus brings, and replace it with a worthy and honorable representative, that can truly highlight the positive and significant contributions by Italian Americans to our state.

Columbus Day for many years now, has been a serious point of contention, one that continues to divide Colorado. Cabrini Day as imagined by a number of Colorado Italian Americans (and others), has the potential to unite Colorado. A celebration of not only Italian American culture, heritage and legacy, Cabrini Day offers the opportunity to celebrate all rich cultures in our state. By celebrating many cultures, the potential for discovering commonality arises in our community. Commonality based on a shared desire to honor where we come from, who we are today and how we can work together for a better future.

Cabrini Day as imagined would celebrate an immigrant—naturalized in Colorado—a woman (the first to join the men on Colorado's state holiday list) and perhaps most important, a humanitarian who set a beautiful example for others thru her desire to help, educate and in general uplift those in need. I can imagine a day that I personally would want to participate in. One that brings together a community to celebrate the state's largest naturalization ceremony, followed by a fun run with proceeds supporting those in need, and a community gathering that offers Coloradans the opportunity to meet and share stories about the communities and families they come from. A day promoting kindness and compassion. A day of service and giving back. A day promoting the things we have in common. A day to unite Colorado. Cabrini Day.

Please do what you can, in your capacity, to make sure this important issue gets the attention and support it deserves. I truly believe now is the time for Cabrini Day to replace Columbus Day. Please act now and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Clark".

Donna Clark
321 Deer Crossing
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104
svenenter@aol.com
(303) 956-4283