

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 82

Senator Lucido, Alexander, Bayer, Geiss, Horn, Johnson, MacDonald, Santana and Wojno offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize October 2019 as Italian-American
2 Heritage Month.

3 Whereas, In October of 1492, a three ship expedition led by
4 Christopher Columbus reached the shores of what he named San
5 Salvador (now in the Bahamas). This voyage brought forth a new era
6 of exploration and discovery in the New World; and

7 Whereas, Those American continents are named after an Italian,
8 the explorer and geographer Amerigo Vespucci; and

9 Whereas, As Christopher Columbus may have set forth his
10 expedition under a Spanish flag, it is his Italian ancestry which
11 is celebrated to this day; and

1 Whereas, Italian-Americans have defended the liberty and
2 integrity of the United States since the Revolutionary War. Two of
3 the original signers of the Declaration of Independence, William
4 Paca and Caesar Rodney, as well as Filippo Mazzei, were believed to
5 have been of Italian decent; and

6 Whereas, An estimated 5.5 million Italians immigrated to the
7 United States between 1820 and 2004; and

8 Whereas, Today, there are over 18 million Americans of Italian
9 descent in the United States, making them the fourth largest ethnic
10 group; and

11 Whereas, Italian-Americans have and continue to make important
12 contributions to the state and our local communities. The bonds
13 between the United States of America, the state of Michigan, and
14 the Italian Republic have never been stronger; now, therefore, be
15 it

16 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
17 body recognize October 2019 as Italian-American Heritage Month; and
18 be it further

19 Resolved, That the Senate reaffirm its commitment to
20 celebrating the history and heritage of Columbus Day; and be it
21 further

22 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
23 Governor of the state of Michigan.