

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE, RECOGNIZING MISSING AND MURDERED IN-
3 DIGENOUS PERSONS AS A CRISIS IN IDAHO, RECOGNIZING AND DESIGNATING MAY
4 5 AS A DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS, AND
5 SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE RATES OF INCIDENCE, UNDERLY-
6 ING CAUSES, AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS THROUGH COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS.

7 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Justice, indige-
9 nous, American Indian, and Alaska Native women face alarming levels of vio-
10 lence, including domestic and sexual violence, and experience murder rates
11 that are greater than ten times the national average, while Native men are
12 1.3 times more likely to experience violence than non-Hispanic white men;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
15 homicide is the third leading cause of death among indigenous, American In-
16 dian, and Alaska Native women between ten and 24 years of age and the fifth
17 leading cause of death for indigenous, American Indian, and Alaska Native
18 women between 25 and 34 years of age; and

19 WHEREAS, more than 175 tribal, state, regional, and national organiza-
20 tions have already joined with the National Indigenous Women's Resource Cen-
21 ter in support of the resolution to create a national day of awareness for
22 missing Native women and girls; and

23 WHEREAS, on May 2, 2019, the United States Senate designated May 5,
24 2019, as the "National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native
25 Women and Girls," and on May 3, 2019, President Donald J. Trump proclaimed
26 May 5, 2019, as "Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives
27 Awareness Day" and called upon "Americans and all Federal, State, tribal and
28 local governments to increase awareness of the crisis of missing and mur-
29 dered American Indians and Alaska Natives through appropriate programs and
30 activities."

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-
32 sion of the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and
33 the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature recognizes and desig-
34 nates May 5 as a Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature does hereby resolve to call
36 upon the Governor of the State of Idaho, the United States Justice Depart-
37 ment, and the five federally recognized tribes in Idaho to, on a collabora-
38 tive basis, pursue and participate in research efforts to provide informa-
39 tion related to the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous persons.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature does hereby resolve to raise
41 awareness and advocate for increased safety for indigenous Native commu-
42 nities by addressing the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous people
43 through collaboration with the United States attorney for the District of

1 Idaho, the Idaho State Police, the tribes, local law enforcement agencies,
2 the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence,
3 the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, and other appro-
4 priate partners, including through actions such as:

5 (1) Reviewing, revising, and creating law enforcement and justice rec-
6 ommendations appropriate to missing indigenous Native American people,
7 including inter-jurisdictional issues;

8 (2) Providing recommendations for increased victim services to the
9 families and community members of the missing or murdered indigenous
10 Native American people, such as counseling for the children of the
11 disappeared, burial assistance, and community walks and healing cere-
12 monies;

13 (3) Providing recommendations on methods for better coordination of
14 efforts between governmental and nongovernmental organizations and
15 agencies to share information;

16 (4) Providing recommendations on methods to improve coordination, con-
17 sultation, and development of protocols between Idaho's federally rec-
18 ognized tribes and federal, state, and local governments to decrease
19 response time and improve investigations into cases of disappeared or
20 murdered indigenous people;

21 (5) Providing recommendations on additional data needs, including def-
22 initions, methodology, funding, and management of data that is suffi-
23 cient to track the missing and murdered people of Idaho's tribes; and

24 (6) Developing recommendations on public outreach services to tribal
25 communities to bring awareness and develop preventive measures regard-
26 ing issues related to missing and murdered indigenous people.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature does hereby honor the lives
28 of all missing and murdered indigenous people and reaffirms its commitment
29 to protecting the safety and wellbeing of all Idahoans, especially those
30 most vulnerable.