

Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day and Action

WHEREAS, In May 2022 President Joe Biden proclaimed May 5th as a National Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day, a day for actions calling for justice; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous women, girls, men, boys and Two Spirit people are more likely to be targeted with various violent crimes such as; trafficking, murder, homicide, rape, and sexual assault crimes; and

WHEREAS, Research indicates 1 in 3 Indigenous women are sexually assaulted or raped in their lifetime, And 4 in 5 Indigenous women experience violence in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, a recent study found that AI and AN women are murdered at a rate ten times higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, Seattle has the highest number of MMIP cases according to a study by Urban Indian Health Institute of 71 cities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, MMIP is an acronym inclusive to all our Indigenous relatives including LGBTQ+2Spirit; and recent data reports 393 Indigenous people went missing in Washington state in 2022; where currently there are 134 Actively Missing Indigenous people (58 Male and 76 female).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 46th District Democrats will recognize, honor and uphold May 5th as MMIP Awareness Day. We will commit to coalition building with Indigenous leaders, organizations and community to elevate MMIP Day and support Indigenous led actions, and support legislation funding MMIP and elevate the safety, and wellbeing of Indigenous peoples across the Pacific Northwest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 46th District Democrats stand with our 46th Legislative District Delegation for supporting and passing HB1177.

Submitted by Vice Chair Lisa Rivera Smith

Originated by Urban Native Education Alliance (UNEA)

<https://www.urbannativeeducation.org/>