

SENATE RESOLUTION

8720

By Senators Hunt, McCoy, Wagoner, Conway, Chase, and Saldaña

1 WHEREAS, Efforts throughout our state seek to raise public  
2 awareness that information and resources are lacking to support the  
3 families of those missing or murdered; and

4 WHEREAS, Washington State does not have information collected or  
5 reported data on the majority of cases of missing and murdered  
6 Indigenous women; and

7 WHEREAS, Courageous tribal members called the state to action,  
8 shining a bright light on their missing and murdered family members;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In 2012, the New York Times reported a U.S. Department  
11 of Justice statistic that Indigenous women are 10 times more likely  
12 to be murdered than American women of other races; and

13 WHEREAS, The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention found  
14 that, in 2016, homicide was the third leading cause of death among  
15 Indigenous women between the ages of 10 and 24; and

16 WHEREAS, A 2016 National Institute of Justice article announced  
17 that the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act of 2005  
18 authorized broad-based, much-needed research to be undertaken on  
19 violence against Indigenous women; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2016, the National Intimate Partner & Sexual Violence  
21 Survey, funded by the National Institute of Justice, reported that  
22 more than four in five Indigenous women, or 84.3 percent, experience  
23 violence in their lives; and

1           WHEREAS, The Senate recognizes the current statewide crisis  
2 regarding missing and murdered Indigenous women;

3           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate express its  
4 gratitude and appreciation to the devoted members of the  
5 Indigenous community for their perseverance in bringing this  
6 body's focus to this crisis; and

7           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the value  
8 of strong community awareness to the vitality and well-being of  
9 our great state of Washington; and

10          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate join with the tribes  
11 of Washington State and all other interested stakeholders to  
12 raise further awareness of the information deficit and limited  
13 resources available for families of missing and murdered  
14 Indigenous women.

15 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,  
16 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
17 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8720,  
18 adopted by the Senate  
19 February 23, 2018

20 BRAD HENDRICKSON  
21 Secretary of the Senate