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**SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1713**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Mosbrucker, Gregerson, Caldier, Dye, Barkis, Corry, Sells, Lekanoff, Schmick, Orwall, Chandler, Hudgins, Ryu, Frame, Jenkins, Ortiz-Self, Peterson, Stanford, Van Werven, Tarleton, Valdez, Macri, Pollet, and Leavitt)

READ FIRST TIME 03/01/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to improving law enforcement response to missing  
2 and murdered Native American women; adding new sections to chapter  
3 43.43 RCW; and creating new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Native American  
6 women experience violence at much higher rates than other  
7 populations. A recent federal study reported that Native American  
8 women are murdered at rates greater than ten times the national  
9 average. Many of these crimes, however, are often unsolved or even  
10 unreported because there are also very high rates of disappearance  
11 for Native American women.

12 The legislature further finds that although violence against  
13 Native American women has been a neglected issue in society, there is  
14 a growing awareness of this crisis, as well as a recognition that the  
15 criminal justice system needs to better serve and protect Native  
16 American women. The legislature intends to find ways to connect  
17 state, tribal, and federal resources to create partnerships to find  
18 ways to solve this crisis facing Native American women in our state,  
19 while being mindful to include voices from both tribal and urban  
20 communities.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.43  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) Two liaison positions for missing and murdered indigenous  
4    women and other missing and murdered indigenous persons are  
5    established in the Washington state patrol. One liaison must reside  
6    in western Washington, and one liaison must reside in eastern  
7    Washington. The liaisons shall work to build relationships to  
8    increase trust between governmental organizations and native  
9    communities. The liaisons shall facilitate communications among:

10        (a) Indian tribes and tribal organizations and communities;

11        (b) Urban Indian organizations and communities;

12        (c) Tribal liaisons in other state agencies;

13        (d) Law enforcement agencies at the federal, state, local, and  
14    tribal level; and

15        (e) Nongovernmental entities that provide services to Native  
16    American women.

17        (2) The salary for the liaison positions is fixed by the  
18    Washington state patrol.

19        (3) To be eligible for hire as a liaison, an applicant must have  
20    significant experience living in tribal or urban indigenous  
21    communities.

22        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.43  
23    RCW to read as follows:

24        (1) The Washington state patrol must develop a best practices  
25    protocol for law enforcement response to missing persons reports for  
26    indigenous women and other indigenous persons. The protocol must  
27    include steps that law enforcement should take upon receiving a  
28    missing persons report for an indigenous woman or other indigenous  
29    person.

30        (2) The governor's office of Indian affairs must provide the  
31    Washington state patrol with government-to-government training, and  
32    must work with the Washington state patrol to schedule and facilitate  
33    the training.

34        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    If specific funding for the purposes of  
35    this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not

1 provided by June 30, 2019, in the omnibus appropriations act, this  
2 act is null and void.

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