

# Missing Indigenous Persons Landscape and Background

Compiled for the State-Tribal Relations Committee (STRC), May 2022, by Pad McCracken, STRC staff  
Updated for the STRC, July 2023, and for the EDIC, Jan 2025 by Casey Pallister, STRC staff

## Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons **Advisory Council**

[44-2-411, MCA](#)

Established in [SB 312](#) (2019) and  
extended in [SB 4](#) (2021), [HB 98](#) (2021),  
and [HB 163](#) (2023)

**Sunsets June 30, 2023**

Administers LINC grant program  
Allocated to DOJ

Reports to STRC by July 1, even years

## Missing Indigenous Persons **Review Commission**

[2-15-2018, MCA](#)

Established in [HB 35](#) (2021)

**Terminated June 30, 2023**

In DOJ; \$20,000 approp for operations  
Reported to STRC and LJIC by Sept 1,  
even years

## Looping in Native Communities (**LINC**) Grant Program [44-2-412, MCA](#)

Established in [SB 312](#) (2019)  
and extended in [HB 98](#) (2021)  
and [HB 163](#) (2023)

Sunsets June 30, 2033  
\$5,000 approp for LINC

**Inactive**

## Legislative Action/Reports

- 2018 Report

[Addressing an Epidemic: Missing and Murdered  
Indian Women](#)

- 2019 Legislation

- [HB 20](#) – missing children laws
- [HB 21](#) – “Hanna’s Act”; missing person specialist at DOJ
- [HB 54](#) – missing person reports
- [SB 40](#) – OPI photo repository
- [SB 312](#) – created MIP Task Force and LINC program
- [HB 749](#) – created two-person human trafficking team

- [Sept 2020 Task Force report to STRC](#)
- [Sept 2020 STRC Report on Task Force recommendations](#)
- 2021 Legislation
  - [HB 35](#) – MIP Review Commission created
  - [HB 36](#) – missing persons response team grants (not enacted)
  - [HB 98](#) – extend MIP Task Force and LINC program
- [July 2022 Task Force report to STRC](#)
- 2023 Legislation and Study Resolution
  - [HB 18](#) – Missing Persons Response Team Grant Program created
  - [HB 163](#) – extend MIP Task Force and LINC, add OPI representative to task force
  - [HJ 1](#) – interim study on missing youth and [final report](#)
- 2025-2026 Research
  - Possibly model [SB 107](#) for MMIP