

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)

Sunset June 30, 2033

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

Inactive

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)

Sunset June 30, 2033

\$5,000 approp for LINC

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