

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2951

65th Legislature
2018 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 3, 2018
Yeas 96 Nays 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate March 1, 2018
Yeas 48 Nays 1

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2951** as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2951

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2018 Regular Session

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

By House Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs (originally sponsored by Representatives McCabe, Gregerson, Stambaugh, Stanford, Walsh, Reeves, Dye, Barkis, Frame, Haler, Jinkins, Kloba, Ormsby, Valdez, and Peterson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing services to report and investigate
2 missing Native American women; creating new sections; and providing
3 an expiration date.

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 face murder rates over ten times the national average. However,
9 many of these crimes often are unsolved and even unreported because
10 there are also very high rates of disappearances among Native
11 American women. Furthermore, there is no comprehensive data
12 collection system for reporting or tracking missing Native American
13 women. This gap in reporting and investigation places Native American
14 women even more vulnerable to violence.

15 The legislature further finds that although violence against
16 Native American women has been a neglected issue in society, there is
17 a growing awareness of this crisis of violence against Native
18 American women, and a recognition of the need for the criminal
19 justice system to better serve and protect Native American women. The
20 legislature intends to find ways to connect state, tribal, and

1 federal resources to create partnerships in finding ways to solve
2 this crisis facing Native American women in our state.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The Washington state patrol must
4 conduct a study to determine how to increase state criminal justice
5 protective and investigative resources for reporting and identifying
6 missing Native American women in the state. The state patrol must
7 work with the governor's office of Indian affairs to convene meetings
8 with tribal and local law enforcement partners, federally recognized
9 tribes, and urban Indian organizations to determine the scope of the
10 problem, identify barriers, and find ways to create partnerships to
11 increase reporting and investigation of missing Native American
12 women. Consultation and collaboration with federally recognized
13 tribes must be conducted in respect for government-to-government
14 relations. The state patrol also must work with the federal
15 department of justice to increase information sharing and
16 coordinating resources that can focus on reporting and investigating
17 missing Native American women in the state.

18 (2) By June 1, 2019, the state patrol must report to the
19 legislature on the results of the study, including data and analysis
20 of the number of missing Native American women in the state,
21 identification of barriers in providing state resources to address
22 the issue, and recommendations, including any proposed legislation
23 that may be needed to address the problem.

24 (3) This section expires December 31, 2019.

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