

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle stands with other tribal, regional, state, and national governments and organizations in support of National Day of Awareness for Missing Native American Women and Girls; and

WHEREAS, Native American women and girls are murdered or go missing at a higher rate than any other ethnic group in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the disappearances and murders of Native American women and girls directly correlates to domestic violence, sexual assault, or human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Attorney General for Washington State found that Washington's location near an international border and the City of Seattle's status as port city has made those locales havens for the recruitment, transportation, and sale of people for labor; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Housing and Urban Development, people experiencing homelessness, particularly youth, are vulnerable to human trafficking; and while Native Americans make up less than one percent of King County's population, they account for nearly six percent of its homeless population; and

WHEREAS, a 2014 U.S. Justice Department-funded study into the sex trade in eight U.S. metropolitan areas exposed an underground commercial sex industry between the cities of Seattle and Tacoma, which showed the highest rate of growth amongst those eight areas nationwide, expanding from \$50 million in sex trade a year in 2003 to \$112 million in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice reports that more than four in five Native American women and girls experience violence during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that homicide is the third leading cause of death for Native American women and girls between the ages of ten and twenty-four, and the fifth leading cause of death for Native women between the ages of twenty-five and thirty-four; and

WHEREAS, Seattle City Council Resolution No. 31801 affirms the City's commitment to increasing the collection of data on Native American communities to better understand and develop strategies to combat the significant social issues that affect those communities, including homelessness, domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle Council, in an effort to support the visibility of these issues locally and nationally, designates May 5, 2018, as the “National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native American Women and Girls;” and

*Now, therefore, The Seattle City Council proclaims:
Saturday, May 5th, 2018 to the Day of Awareness for Missing
and Murdered Native American Women and Girls in the City of
Seattle*

Council President Bruce A. Harrell

Councilmember Sally Bagshaw

Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda

Councilmember M. Lorena González

Councilmember Lisa Herbold

Councilmember Rob Johnson

Councilmember Kshama Sawant

Councilmember Mike O’Brien

Councilmember Debora Juarez