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State-Tribal Relations Committee
66th Montana Legislature

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March 6, 2020

Attorney General Tim Fox
Office of the Attorney General
215 N Sanders St.
Helena, MT 59601


Dear Attorney General Fox:

On March 5, the State-Tribal Relations Committee received an update from your staff regarding implementation of the missing persons-related legislation enacted in 2019. Our committee applauds the efforts by your agency and staff to make this work a priority and to bring these programs to life.

The committee learned that Phase III of implementing the Looping in Native Communities Grant Program (Senate Bill 312) is planned to include development of a mobile phone application that would provide "push notifications" to the public when an American Indian goes missing in Montana. While we agree this technology would be a useful tool, we respectfully ask that it be developed to provide notifications for any missing person, not just American Indians.

The committee heard from the public during the discussion that swift and efficient communication is critical at all levels when a person goes missing. Please consider developing this technology in such a way that benefits every Montanan.

Sincerely,


Sen. Jason Small, Chair


Rep. Rae Peppers, Vice Chair

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