

Missing Indigenous Person Landscape and Background

Compiled for the State-Tribal Relations Committee (STRC), May 2022, by Pad McCracken, STRC staff

Updated for the STRC, July 2023, by Casey Pallister, STRC staff

Missing Indigenous Persons

Task Force [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, 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

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

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