

**MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND
GIRLS TASK FORCE**

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Angela Romero

Senate Sponsor: David P. Hinkins

7	Cosponsors:	Karen Kwan	Andrew Stoddard
8	Patrice M. Arent	Phil Lyman	Keven J. Stratton
9	Joel K. Briscoe	Carol Spackman Moss	Elizabeth Weight
10	Jennifer Dailey-Provost	Stephanie Pitcher	Mark A. Wheatley
11	Suzanne Harrison	Marie H. Poulson	Mike Winder
12	Sandra Hollins	Douglas V. Sagers	
13	Brian S. King	Rex P. Shipp	



LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Task Force.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates the task force; and
- ▶ specifies duties of the task force.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2021:

- ▶ to the Legislature - Senate as a one-time appropriation:
 - from the General Fund, \$3,200;
- ▶ to the Legislature - House of Representatives as a one-time appropriation:
 - from the General Fund, \$3,200;
- ▶ to the Legislature - Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel as a

29 one-time appropriation:

- 30 • from the General Fund, \$2,800.

31 **Other Special Clauses:**

32 This bill provides a repeal date.

33 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

34 ENACTS:

35 **36-29-107**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



37 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

38 Section 1. Section **36-29-107** is enacted to read:

39 **36-29-107. Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Task Force --**
 40 **Creation -- Membership -- Quorum -- Compensation -- Staff -- Vacancies -- Duties --**
 41 **Interim Report.**

42 (1) As used in this section, "task force" means the Murdered and Missing Indigenous
 43 Women and Girls Task Force created in Subsection (2).

44 (2) There is created a Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Task Force
 45 consisting of the following nine members:

46 (a) one member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate;

47 (b) one member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House
 48 of Representatives;

49 (c) the following three members, appointed jointly by the president of the Senate and
 50 the speaker of the House of Representatives:

51 (i) a member of a nonprofit organization primarily serving Utah's Native American
 52 community;

53 (ii) a representative of a Utah Native American tribe; and

54 (iii) a representative of a victim advocate organization serving Utah's Native American
 55 population;

56 (d) the director of the Division of Indian Affairs, or the director's designee;

57 (e) the executive director of the Department of Human Services, or the executive
58 director's designee;

59 (f) the attorney general, or the attorney general's designee; and

60 (g) the commissioner of public safety for the Department of Public Safety, or the
61 commissioner's designee.

62 (3) A vacancy in a position appointed under Subsection (2)(a), (b), or (c) shall be filled
63 by appointing a replacement member in the same manner as the member creating the vacancy
64 was appointed under Subsection (2)(a), (b), or (c).

65 (4) (a) The senator appointed under Subsection (2)(a) is a cochair of the task force.

66 (b) The member of the House of Representatives appointed under Subsection (2)(b) is
67 a cochair of the task force.

68 (5) (a) A quorum consists of five members.

69 (b) The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes an action of the task force.

70 (6) (a) Salaries and expenses of the members of the task force who are legislators shall
71 be paid in accordance with Section [36-2-2](#) and Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 3,
72 Legislator Compensation.

73 (b) A member of the task force who is not a legislator:

74 (i) may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service associated with
75 the task force; and

76 (ii) may receive per diem and travel expenses incurred as a member of the task force at
77 the rates established by the Division of Finance in accordance with Sections [63A-3-106](#) and
78 [63A-3-107](#) and rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections [63A-3-106](#) and
79 [63A-3-107](#).

80 (7) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide staff support
81 to the task force.

82 (8) The task force shall:

83 (a) conduct appropriate consultations with tribal governments on the scope and nature
84 of the issues regarding missing and murdered indigenous women and girls;

85 (b) develop model protocols and procedures to apply to new and unsolved cases of
86 missing or murdered indigenous women and girls, including the best practices for:

87 (i) improving the way law enforcement investigators and prosecutors respond to the
88 high volume of the cases, and to the investigative challenges that might be presented in cases
89 involving female victims;

90 (ii) collecting and sharing data among various jurisdictions and law enforcement
91 agencies; and

92 (iii) better use of existing criminal databases;

93 (c) seek input from multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional persons, including
94 representatives from tribal law enforcement and federal agencies, about how to review cold
95 cases involving missing and murdered indigenous women and girls; and

96 (d) address the need for greater clarity concerning roles, authorities, and jurisdiction
97 throughout the lifecycle of cases involving missing and murdered indigenous women and girls
98 by discussing:

99 (i) best practices in cases involving missing and murdered indigenous women and girls,
100 including best practices related to communication with affected families from initiation of an
101 investigation through case resolution or closure; and

102 (ii) education and outreach campaigns for communities that are most affected by crime
103 resulting in missing and murdered indigenous women and girls to identify and reduce the
104 crime.

105 (9) (a) On or before November 30, 2020, the task force shall provide a report to the
106 Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee.

107 (b) The report shall include a summary of the task force's findings under Subsection (8)
108 and recommendations for improvements in the criminal justice and social service systems for
109 preventing and addressing crimes involving missing and murdered indigenous women and girls
110 in Utah.

111 **Section 2. Appropriation.**

112 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,

113 2020, and ending June 30, 2021. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
 114 fiscal year 2021. Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures
 115 Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts
 116 indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

117 ITEM 1

118 To Legislature - Senate
 119 From General Fund, One-time \$3,200
 120 Schedule of Programs:
 121 Administration \$3,200

122 ITEM 2

123 To Legislature - House of Representatives
 124 From General Fund, One-time \$3,200
 125 Schedule of Programs:
 126 Administration \$3,200

127 ITEM 3

128 To Legislature - Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
 129 From General Fund, One-time \$2,800
 130 Schedule of Programs:
 131 Administration \$2,800

132 The Legislature intends that an appropriation provided under these items be used for
 133 expenses relating to the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Task Force as
 134 described in Section [36-29-107](#).

135 Section 3. **Repeal date.**

136 Section [36-29-107](#) is repealed on November 30, 2020.