

**Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Thursday, January 3, 2019**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3041

(Representatives Buffalo, P. Anderson, Dobervich, Hager, Hanson, Holman, M. Nelson)
(Senators Dotzenrod, Kannianen, Oban, Schaible)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to pass Savanna's Act.

WHEREAS, homicide is the third leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Native women between 10 and 24 years of age and the fifth leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Native women between 25 and 34 years of age; and

WHEREAS, in some tribal communities, American Indian women are murdered at more than 10 times the national average; and

WHEREAS, Native American and Alaska Native women are at least two times more likely to experience rape or sexual assault and two and one-half times more likely to experience violent crimes compared to all other races, and those factors often are tied to cases involving a disappearance or murder; and

WHEREAS, the National Crime Information Center reported 5,712 cases of missing American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls in 2016, yet the United States Department of Justice's federal missing persons database only logged 116 cases; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, North Dakota had 125 cases of Native American women and girls reported missing to the National Crime Information Center, with many cases likely going unreported; and

WHEREAS, Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, for whom the federal legislation is named, was a member of the Spirit Lake Tribe and vanished when she was eight months pregnant; and

WHEREAS, Savanna's Act will improve tribal access to federal crime information databases on missing persons and cooperation among tribal, federal, state, and local law enforcement, and will mandate the Attorney General consult with tribes and submit a report to Congress on how to resolve the barriers tribes face;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to pass Savanna's Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate