

National Lieutenant Governors Association

NLGA Consensus Resolution On Efforts to Promote Child Safety and Human <u>Trafficking Prevention</u>

WHEREAS, more than 350,000 children go missing annually, averaging roughly 1,000 per day, 1 and

WHEREAS, missing and runaway children are most vulnerable to drugs, gangs, and human trafficking,² and

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WHEREAS, missing children are most likely to be targeted for trafficking/sexual exploitation within two to 48 hours after going missing,³ and

WHEREAS, 60% of all missing children are Black, Hispanic, multiracial, or indigenous;⁴ and African American girls aged 11-21 are four times more likely to go missing than their white counterparts,⁵ and

WHEREAS, the murder rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives in the U.S. is 10 times higher than the national average for women living on reservations and murder is the third leading cause of death for Native women,⁶ and

WHEREAS, national organizations including the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), FBI-Law Enforcement Executives Development Association (FBI-LEEDA), National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and the National Child ID Program, have partnered together with the NFL Alumni Association Caring for Kids Campaign and Pro Football Hall of Fame to raise awareness about missing children and increase access to prevention resources, and

https://www.ncai.org/section/vawa/overview/key-statistics / https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/main-news/overpoliced-and-underprotected-utm-study-finds-search-missing-indigenous-women-hampered

¹ "2022 Missing Person and Unidentified Person Statistics." National Crime Information Center. February 2, 2023. https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/2022-ncic-missing-person-and-unidentified-person-statistics.pdf/view

² "The Invisible Faces of Runaway and Homeless Youth." U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs. November 25, 2019. https://www.ojp.gov/archives/ojp-blogs/2019/invisible-faces-runaway-and-homeless-youth

³ "Human Trafficking Into and Within the United States: A Review of the Literature." U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/private/pdf/75891/index.pdf

⁴ "Our Impact: 2023." National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. 2023. https://www.missingkids.org/ourwork/impact

⁵ "Crisis of missing Black women and girls deserves more public attention." Chicago Sun Times. March 10, 2022. https://chicago.suntimes.com/2022/3/10/22969776/missing-black-women-girls-abuse-sex-trafficking-house-subcommittee-representative-robin-kelly-op-ed

⁶ "Research Policy Update." National Congress of American Indians. October 2021.

WHEREAS, national law enforcement associations including NOBLE and FBI-LEEDA recommend a safety game plan consisting of completing or updating child ID kits from the National Child ID Program, having regular and positive conversations about online and physical dangers, and having a plan should a loved one ever go missing, and

WHEREAS, each year safety gameplan materials and inkless child ID kits are distributed at various back-to-school events across the country including National Night Out events each year in over 6,000 communities.⁷

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) encourages its members to consider solutions to America's minority and missing and murdered indigenous women and relatives crises, which may include resources and prevention materials to families in order to protect at-risk children.

ADOPTED, this day, the 5th of December, 2024.

Proposed for the docket by: Pennant, LLC, NLGA Partner

⁷ "A Message for Parents – How to Protect Yours Kids with ID Kits." Federal Bureau of Investigation. July 24, 2006. https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/news/stories/2006/july/idkits072406