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April 22, 2025

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 1137

By: Stewart of the House

and

Weaver of the Senate

An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S. 2021, Section 150.12A-1, which relates to the Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons; deleting federal funding and grant requirements; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 150.12A-1,  
is amended to read as follows:

Section 150.12A-1. A. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall coordinate with the United States Attorney's Office and the United States Department of Justice to ~~obtain federal funding by January 1, 2022, to~~ coordinate efforts and gather data to address the issue of missing and murdered indigenous persons in the State of Oklahoma. ~~The Bureau shall seek and apply for any applicable federal grants and may coordinate with private entities to obtain funding or fulfill grant requirements.~~

1       B. ~~Upon securing federal funding, the~~ The Bureau shall create  
2 an Office of Liaison for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons.  
3 Any individual hired within the Office shall have significant  
4 experience working with tribal communities. Subject to available  
5 funding, the Office shall include a missing persons specialist.

6       C. The Office of Liaison for Missing and Murdered Indigenous  
7 Persons shall:

8           1. Work with state, tribal and federal law enforcement agencies  
9 on missing persons and homicide cases involving American Indian  
10 individuals;

11          2. Develop a best practices protocol for law enforcement  
12 response to missing persons reports involving American Indian  
13 individuals;

14          3. Assist families, tribal agencies and nongovernmental  
15 entities in using the National Missing and Unidentified Persons  
16 System (NamUs) and other resources;

17          4. Provide guidance to victims' families with navigating state  
18 and federal district court cases;

19          5. Coordinate with other state offices including, but not  
20 limited to, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, agency tribal  
21 liaisons and the Secretary of Native American Affairs to develop  
22 training and education on missing and murdered indigenous persons  
23 issues and the state-tribal government-to-government relationship;  
24

1       6. Facilitate trainings for law enforcement and members of the  
2 public on issues relating to missing and murdered indigenous  
3 persons; and

4       7. Consult with community organizations that serve indigenous  
5 populations to promote community relations and develop best  
6 practices.

7       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

8 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY  
9 April 22, 2025 - DO PASS  
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