

**TUNICA-BILOXI TRIBE OF LOUISIANA
TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. TBNR-2019-001**

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SAVANNA'S ACT

- WHEREAS, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana is a federally recognized Indian tribe;
- WHEREAS, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribal Council ("Tribal Council") is the duly elected governing body of the Tribe, as authorized by Article VII, Section 1, of the Constitution of the Tribe ("Constitution");
- WHEREAS, the United States and Indian Tribes have a unique government-to-government relationship set out in the U.S. Constitution, treaties, and statutes and affirmed through centuries of court precedent; and
- WHEREAS, on some reservations, American Indian women are murdered at more than 10 times the national average.
- WHEREAS, American Indians and Alaska Natives are 2.5 times as likely to experience violent crimes — and at least 2 times more likely to experience rape or sexual assault crimes — compared to all other races according to the National Congress of American Indians.
- WHEREAS, more than 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native women, or 84.3 percent, have experienced violence in their lifetime according to the National Institute of Justice. (4) More than 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native men, or 81.6 percent, have experienced violence in their lifetime according to the National Institute of Justice.
- WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 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.
- WHEREAS, investigations into cases of missing and murdered Indian women is made difficult for Tribal law enforcement agencies due to a lack of resources, such as (A) necessary training, equipment, or funding; (B) a lack of interagency cooperation; and (C) a lack of appropriate laws in place.
- WHEREAS, the complicated jurisdictional scheme that exists in Indian country has a significant negative impact on the ability to provide public safety to Indian communities; has been increasingly exploited by criminals; and requires a high degree of commitment and cooperation among Tribal, Federal, and State law enforcement officials.
- WHEREAS, the passage of Savanna's Act would direct the U.S. Attorney General to provide training to law enforcement agencies regarding how to record the Tribal enrollment information or affiliation, as appropriate, of a victim in Federal databases; create standardized protocols for responding to cases of missing and murdered Native Americans,

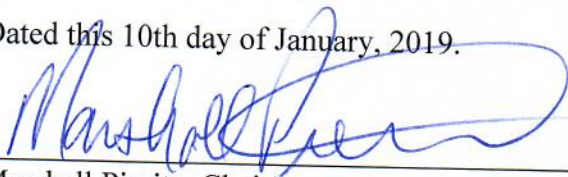
in consultation with Tribes, which will include guidance on interjurisdictional cooperation among tribal, federal, state, and local law enforcement; and require an annual report to Congress on the statistics on missing and murdered Native women, and recommendations on how to improve data collection.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribal Council hereby supports and urges Congress to enact Savanna's Act in order to address the crisis of missing and murdered Native women and girls.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned, as Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, certify that the Tribal Council of said Tribe is composed of seven (7) members, of whom 5, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting thereof, duly called, noted, convened and held this 10th day of January, 2019; and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by a vote of 6 members in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

Dated this 10th day of January, 2019.



Marshall Pierite, Chairman



Beverly C. Rachal, Secretary-Treasurer