



John Bel Edwards
GOVERNOR

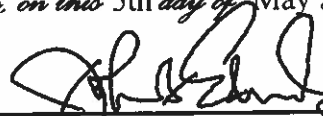
Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** according to a 2016 report from the National Institute of Justice, 84 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime, more than half of whom experienced sexual violence; and
- 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; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2016, the National Crime Information Center reported nearly 6,000 cases of missing American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls; and
- WHEREAS,** studies show that American Indians and Alaska Natives are almost three times more likely to experience violent crimes and at least two times more likely to experience rape or sexual assault crimes than other racial groups; and
- WHEREAS,** because of this disproportionate violence against indigenous women, Title IX-Safety for Indian Women is included in the Violence Against Women Act; and
- WHEREAS,** through the efforts of surviving families, the United States Senate, by resolution, designated May 5 as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls, calling on people to commemorate the lives of missing and murdered American Indian and Alaska Native women and demonstrate solidarity with the families of victims in light of these tragedies.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** **I, John Bel Edwards,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim May 5, 2021 as

**Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
Awareness Day**
in the State of Louisiana.



*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the
State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of
Baton Rouge, on this 5th day of May A.D., 2021.*


Governor of Louisiana