



Memorializing Resolution of the City Council

#0009-23

Sponsored by: **Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr.**, City Council President, Councilmember At-Large

Cosponsored by: **LaShay D. Harris**, Councilmember, South District; **Stanley Martin**, Councilmember At-Large

To The Honorable
Rochester City Council
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York 14614

RE: Memorializing the Governor and New York State Senate and Assembly Members to Support A.5088/S.4266, legislation to establish a task force on missing women and girls who are Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC)

Honorable Council Members:

I ask you to join me by signing your name on this Memorializing Resolution – to urge the Governor & New York State Senate and Assembly Members to support A.5088/S.4266, legislation to establish a task force on missing women and girls who are Black, indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) – and, in doing so, to collectively **State and Resolve:**

WHEREAS, We, the undersigned Members of Rochester City Council, render visible this invisible crisis and ask you to confront and address this pressing problem; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2020 report by the Women’s Media Center, there are 64,000 to 75,000 missing Black women and girls across the United States; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2020 report by the Sovereign Bodies Institute, at least 2,306 missing Native American women and girls have gone missing in the last 40 years in the United States, about 1,800 of whom were killed or vanished; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System, Rochester, New York has 63 missing people; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, we support A.5088/S.4266, legislation that will create a task force to identify policies to ensure first responders are culturally competent; advance the knowledge of communities on the severity of BIPOC women and girls who are missing and murdered; and be it further

RESOLVED, this legislation will ensure BIPOC communities are educated and trained on the prevention, protection, and protocols relating to missing BIPOC women and girls as it relates to social media; and be it further

RESOLVED, this taskforce will develop a strategy to collect statistics, demographics, surveys, oral histories, and data analysis; and be it further

Memorializing the Governor & New York State Senate and Assembly Members to Support A.5088/S.4266, legislation to establish a task force on missing women and girls who are Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC)

RESOLVED, this legislation will chart a path forward in guaranteeing that every missing child is treated equitably, with the same resources dedicated to their investigation – no matter the race, zip code, or socioeconomic status of that child; and be it further

RESOLVED, we shall forward copies of this resolution to the Governor and Members of the New York State Senate and Assembly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr." in a cursive style.

Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr., President
At-Large Representative

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LaShay D. Harris" in a cursive style.

LaShay D. Harris, Councilmember
South District

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stanley Martin" in a cursive style.

Stanley Martin, Councilmember
At-Large Representative