



Midwestern Legislative Conference

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

76th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments

July 10 – 13, 2022

Resolution in Support of the Protection and Return of Indigenous Remains and Property

- WHEREAS,** beginning with the Indian Civilization Act Fund of March 3, 1819, and the Peace Policy of 1869, the United States, in concert with and at the urging of several denominations of the Christian church, adopted an Indian Boarding School Policy; and
- WHEREAS,** Canadian Residential Schools were created and funded as a result of the Indian Act of 1876, an act to amend and consolidate the laws respecting Indians; and
- WHEREAS,** the intent of this resolution is to recognize the findings of the Canadian government's Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report dated December 15, 2015; and
- WHEREAS,** between 1869 and the 1960s, as many as 100,000 Native American children in the United States were removed from their homes and families and placed in boarding schools operated by the federal government and the churches; and
- WHEREAS,** the facts and history of innumerable deaths and burial of Indigenous children in the custody on boarding school lands is finally being told; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Midwestern Legislative Conference does hereby request that, to the extent possible based on information possessed by such Federal agencies and in consultation with Indigenous leaders, any human remains and associated funerary objects be identified and, upon request and where practicable, of a known lineal descendant of an Indigenous or American Indian tribe, return such remains to the lineal descendants and culturally affiliated Indigenous and American Indian tribes and communities; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that this resolution be submitted to appropriate state, federal and provincial officials.

Adopted this 13th day of July, 2022 at the 76th MLC Annual Meeting in Wichita, Kansas