



Legislation Text

File #: Res 31801, Version: 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION calling for review of current methods for collecting data on Native Communities, and potential strategies for improving such data collection, and exploration of the need for capacity-building for organizations seeking to assist Native Communities.

WHEREAS, over 150 years ago, Chief Seattle and the Coast Salish peoples governed the Puget Sound region;

and

WHEREAS, Chief Seattle's legacy of environmental protection, and indigenous people's rights, established the foundation for the City of Seattle's modern-day government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle is home today to a large and growing population of American Indians and Alaskan Natives ("Native Communities"); and

WHEREAS, Native Communities face disproportionate levels of homelessness, poverty, and adverse health conditions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that Native Communities deserve the dedicated attention of City policymakers to begin addressing these significant social issues, and in response, during the creation of Council committees for 2018, included Native Communities in the title of the Civic Development, Public Assets, and Native Communities Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Civic Development, Public Assets, and Native Communities Committee will work with local community partners and service providers to raise awareness of and explore solutions to local issues affecting Native Communities, including: housing affordability, health and mental health conditions, access to justice, youth services, tribal engagement, and historic preservation; and

WHEREAS, enhancing the collection of data on Native Communities has been recognized as a key issue to be

examined, as data are critical to identifying and more effectively addressing many of the issues faced by Native Communities; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 31613, adopted by the Council in September 2015, requested that a Demographic Data Task Force be formed to develop recommendations and strategies for improving the collection of demographic data, including standardizing the disaggregation of demographic data across City departments for communities for which more specific racial data categories are important; and

WHEREAS, the Demographic Data Task Force issued recommendations on data collection and dissemination that are being implemented, but further review of the collection of data for Native Communities is warranted to determine if there are further efforts needed to fill identified gaps; and

WHEREAS, there may also be a need for capacity-building for organizations seeking to assist Native Communities to implement solutions to local issues; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE MAYOR
CONCURRING, THAT:**

Section 1. The Seattle City Council’s Civic Development, Public Assets, and Native Communities Committee will work with the appropriate City and County executive departments, community partners, and service providers to:

A. Review current methods for collecting, disseminating, and using data on American Indians and Alaskan Natives (“Native Communities”); and identify strategies for improving the collection of data if gaps exist. These data will be used to more effectively understand and address issues facing Native Communities; and

B. Explore whether additional capacity-building assistance is needed to help organizations seeking to assist Native Communities to implement solutions to local issues.

Adopted by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2018, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day of _____, 2018.

President _____ of the City Council

The Mayor concurred the _____ day of _____, 2018.

Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2018.

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)