NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH RESOLUTION 23-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE SAVE OUR SISTERS MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE (MMIP) AMBER ALERT PROPOSAL.

WHEREAS: the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly is the governing body of the Northwest Arctic Borough; and

WHEREAS: the Northwest Arctic Borough is a home rule government and the second largest borough in Alaska, comprised of 11 communities: Ambler (Ivisaappaat), Buckland (Nunatchiaq), Deering (Ipnatchiaq), Kiana (Katyaak), Kivalina (Kivaliñiq), Kobuk (Laugviik), Kotzebue (Qiqiktaġruk), Noatak (Napaaqtuġmiut), Noorvik (Nuurvik), Selawik (Akuligaq), and Shungnak (Isiŋnaq); and

WHEREAS: the Northwest Arctic Borough has been occupied by Inupiat people for at least 10,000 years and its communities' present populations consist of 85.8% Indigenous Alaska Native or part Native; and

WHEREAS: Indigenous Peoples, and Indigenous women and girls in particular, face disproportionate rates of violence, including abduction and murder, which are often not adequately addressed by law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS: the Save Our Sisters Proposal seeks to improve coordination within the Department of Justice, state agencies, and local governments to enhance the America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER) Alert communications network in cases involving missing or abducted tribal members above the age of 18; and

WHEREAS: the proposal would also facilitate the development of memoranda of understanding between Tribal Nations, States, and localities, allowing for the utilization of AMBER Alert networks to locate missing or abducted tribal members above the age of 18 reported missing, abducted, or imminently in danger by Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS: the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples crisis is national in scope and requires immediate action on the tribal, national, state, and local levels as it is of the utmost urgency; and

WHEREAS: the Assembly wishes to support the Save Our Sisters MMIP Amber Alert Proposal, which seeks to amend Public Law 108-21.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY: that the Assembly supports the Save Our Sisters MMIP Amber Alert Proposal, which seeks to amend Public Law 108-21, as it is a critical step in addressing the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and further urges Congress to take swift action.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 25th DAY OF APRIL 2023.

Nathan Hadley, Jr., Assembly President

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 25th DAY OF APRIL 2023.

Dickie Moto, Sr., Mayor for Dickie Moto

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS THIS 25th DAY OF APRIL 2023.

Stella Atoruk, Borough Clerk

ATTEST: