

# COMMITTEE REPORT

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## NATIVE VOTE

Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians - 2025 Winter  
Portland, OR

### DISCUSSION

**Ronnie Jo Horse**, (citizen of Oglala Lakota Nation) Executive Director, Western Native Vote, Inc.  
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- Montana is the only state in the country where the percentage of Native officials in the state legislature matches their share of the population.
- As of November 2024, 12 Native American officials serve in the Montana legislature. This includes four senators and seven representatives.
- Fair maps were re-drawn in Montana after winning law suit against the gerrymandering that started during the census map gatherings. The re-districting efforts impacted ICW, voting rights, school boundaries, same day voter registration, ballot collections, and etc. It was a 10-year process but in reality, they started 30 years ago requesting real maps be drawn up.
- **Programs:** Civic Engagement, Education, Advocacy, Leadership Development, Expanding Horizons, and Day Labor Programs. Intentionally highlighting Educate, Engage, Lead, & Advocate

### ADOPTED AND RECOMMENDED TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Resolution # & Title:

- 1) **“Working Together, Supporting Each Other, We Win”**
- 2) **“Automatic Voter Registration for citizens of Tribal Nations in Washington State”**

### COMMITTEE - TABLED

Resolution # & Title:

Minutes/Report submitted by: Julie Johnson & Theresa Sheldon  
Committee Co-Chairs

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*Presented by Brian Smith to general assembly*