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SENATE MEMORIAL 41

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M. Lopez

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING ELENA GIACCI FOR HER TIRELESS WORK SERVING VICTIMS
OF SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

WHEREAS, Elena Giacci is a proud Diné woman and a native
of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Elena has dedicated herself to serving victims of
sexual and domestic violence for twenty-eight years; and

WHEREAS, Elena is a development and training director on
sexual and intimate partner violence issues throughout North
America and a strong advocate for American Indian and Alaskan
native people and has worked with many diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, Elena began her career in 1989 as a hospital
advocate with the Albuquerque rape crisis center and designed
the first domestic violence training program for the income
support division of the human services department; and

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1 WHEREAS, Elena volunteered with the prestigious and
2 nationally recognized Albuquerque police department domestic
3 abuse response team, served as the president of the board of
4 directors for the rape crisis center of central New Mexico and
5 was chair of the New Mexico intimate partner violence death
6 review team; and

7 WHEREAS, Elena has served as the executive director of the
8 state coalition to stop violence against native women, co-chair
9 of Albuquerque mayor Martin Chavez's sexual assault task force,
10 a member of the New Mexico governor's victims rights alliance
11 and chair of the coalition to stop violence against women and
12 children; and

13 WHEREAS, Elena was one of the team leaders for the
14 national Indian health service's domestic violence clinic
15 demonstration project, which worked with more than one hundred
16 Indian, tribal and urban health care facilities as well as
17 domestic violence programs across the United States to improve
18 the health care system response to domestic violence; and

19 WHEREAS, Elena was co-investigator with Dr. Elizabeth
20 Miller in the research study by the national institute of child
21 health and human development: *Partner Violence and Reproductive*
22 *Coercion among Native American Women*; and

23 WHEREAS, Elena was the national faculty leader for the
24 five-year Native project 2.0, in cooperation with the national
25 organization, futures without violence; and

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1 WHEREAS, Elena produced policy and protocols that improved
2 public health responses to domestic and sexual violence in
3 American Indian women's health programs; and

4 WHEREAS, Elena was the recipient of the young women's
5 Christian association women on the move award in recognition of
6 women who provide leadership and make significant contributions
7 to their community; and

8 WHEREAS, Elena was awarded the 2012 FIRE, fueling
9 increasingly relevant education, award in recognition of
10 community leaders promoting social justice and equality; and

11 WHEREAS, Elena is also a trainer working with media and
12 developing media relations for topics related to domestic and
13 sexual violence; and

14 WHEREAS, since 1999, Elena has produced and directed a
15 "Stop the Violence" television show in Albuquerque; and

16 WHEREAS, Elena is currently chair of Albuquerque Mayor
17 Richard J. Berry's domestic violence sexual assault task force,
18 where she and members of the task force created the first
19 Albuquerque police department national model for limited
20 English policies; and

21 WHEREAS, this model has been followed up with training of
22 the Albuquerque police department cadets on understanding
23 cultural and diversity issues; and

24 WHEREAS, Elena will spend whatever time is needed to
25 advocate for a victim and will use every ounce of her voice and

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1 breath to support those who have suffered great trauma; and

2 WHEREAS, Elena is dedicating her time to the subject of
3 historical trauma, oppression and violence against women; and

4 WHEREAS, Elena attributes her knowledge in advocacy to the
5 numerous women, men and children who have honored her with
6 their stories and friendship;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
8 OF NEW MEXICO that Elena Giacci be recognized for her tireless
9 work serving victims of sexual and domestic violence; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
11 transmitted to Elena Giacci.