

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 125

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Richard C. Martinez

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9  
10 A MEMORIAL

11 IN REMEMBRANCE AND RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LINDA  
12 PEDRO.

13  
14 WHEREAS, Linda Pedro, a long-time advocate and activist  
15 for disability rights and a resident of Rio Arriba county for  
16 many years, died on January 13, 2015 at her home in Chimayo;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Linda was known as a person who spoke forcefully  
19 about the issues facing those with disabilities and facing the  
20 poor; and

21 WHEREAS, Linda spoke with credibility, having been  
22 confined to a wheelchair as a quadriplegic since a car accident  
23 in 1966; and

24 WHEREAS, when faced with having her three-year-old son  
25 removed from her home because of her paralysis, Linda took

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1 legal initiatives to change the way in-home care was provided  
2 to herself and to others in similar situations, and she  
3 prevailed; and

4 WHEREAS, Linda's advocacy led to the reexamination of  
5 policies affecting the poor and disabled, and she was an early  
6 advocate of Medicaid waiver programs, including the  
7 developmental disabilities supports and services Medicaid  
8 waiver program; and

9 WHEREAS, Linda was an early recipient of that program and  
10 never relented in her efforts to assure that it operated for  
11 the overall benefit of eligible recipients; and

12 WHEREAS, Linda had a strong interest in justice and the  
13 well-being of her community, and she involved herself in  
14 numerous activities, including involvement in the formative  
15 years of the la raza unida party and the rainbow coalition of  
16 the Rio Arriba county democratic party; and

17 WHEREAS, Linda led anti-nuclear events and organized  
18 marches from Santa Cruz to el Santuario de Chimayo in protest  
19 of drugs; and

20 WHEREAS, Linda was defined as an artist and created an art  
21 school for children called galeria guadalupana; and

22 WHEREAS, Linda led a spiritual life and had a great  
23 devotion to the virgin de Guadalupe, culminating in a  
24 pilgrimage to Mexico City and the shrine of Guadalupe, where  
25 adherents carried Linda in her wheelchair into the cathedral;

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