

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 106

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Antoinette Sedillo Lopez

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
12 TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF THE CREATION OF TWO PILOT DOMESTIC
13 VIOLENCE COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAMS.

14
15 WHEREAS, nationally and in New Mexico, over one in three
16 women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime, and
17 one in seven men will experience domestic violence in his
18 lifetime; and

19 WHEREAS, data collected by the New Mexico interpersonal
20 violence data central repository data reveals that adult
21 victims who sought the assistance of service providers in 2017
22 represent thirty percent of domestic violence victims
23 identified by law enforcement; and

24 WHEREAS, offenders who participated in treatment programs
25 in 2017 represent five and five-tenths percent of the domestic

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1 violence suspects identified by law enforcement; and

2 WHEREAS, in the 2017 analysis of data from the New Mexico
3 interpersonal violence data central repository, of the twelve
4 thousand one hundred seven cases of domestic violence heard in
5 magistrate courts in 2017, eight percent resulted in a guilty
6 plea or conviction, one percent resulted in an acquittal,
7 seventy-nine percent were dismissed and twelve percent resulted
8 in "other" dispositions; and

9 WHEREAS, according to the same source, of the one thousand
10 nine hundred fifty-six cases of domestic violence heard in
11 district courts in 2017, twenty-nine percent resulted in a
12 guilty plea or conviction, less than one percent resulted in an
13 acquittal, fifty-four percent were dismissed and sixteen
14 percent resulted in "other" dispositions; and

15 WHEREAS, a coordinated community response has been shown
16 to increase referrals to services for victims, increase
17 offender participation in batterers' intervention programs,
18 increase the safety of survivors and victims, increase the
19 number of cases prosecuted, reduce domestic violence dismissal
20 rates and increase abuser accountability; and

21 WHEREAS, the recommendations of the New Mexico intimate
22 partner violence death review team identify many areas of
23 improvement that could be addressed by an effective coordinated
24 community response, including training, cooperation among
25 agencies and law enforcement and community education and

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1 outreach; and

2 WHEREAS, in an effective coordinated community response,
3 the safety of the survivors and victims is paramount, and
4 training, protocols, procedures and education among all key
5 stakeholders and service providers should focus on this goal;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, an effective coordinated community response
8 involves extensive interagency, law enforcement, prosecution
9 and judicial cooperation and education; and

10 WHEREAS, the support of major decision makers for
11 coordinated community response efforts enhances effectiveness;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, confidentiality concerns with coordinated
14 community response and multidisciplinary teams must be
15 respected to ensure victim safety; and

16 WHEREAS, an effective coordinated community response would
17 achieve systemic changes; and

18 WHEREAS, effective coordinated community responses bring
19 together all relevant parties who work together to pursue
20 shared objectives, and membership of teams depends on the local
21 context; and

22 WHEREAS, effective coordinated community responses
23 mobilize the community, outreach education and primary
24 prevention efforts and include sustained local campaigns
25 engaging the media and diverse organizations and sectors of the

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1 population to:

2 A. build community understanding and knowledge
3 about domestic violence and resources;

4 B. enable an overall supportive environment for
5 victims and survivors; and

6 C. further policy and legal reforms and secure
7 additional resources; and

8 WHEREAS, data should be constantly collected, and
9 coordinated community response progress toward objectives
10 should be measured to evaluate effectiveness, including the
11 monitoring of perpetrator interventions and efforts to adjust
12 policies and procedures to end perpetrator impunity;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
14 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico coalition against domestic
15 violence be requested to study the feasibility of the creation
16 of two pilot projects to establish effective coordinated
17 community response teams; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed pilot projects
19 would place a coordinated community response team in the
20 thirteenth judicial district and in the eleventh judicial
21 district; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
23 community response teams would study methods of coordination,
24 training, monitoring, evaluating and reporting; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated

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1 community response teams would ascertain the dismissal rate for
2 domestic violence cases in their areas and identify the primary
3 factors affecting the dismissal rates; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
5 community response teams would make recommendations to reduce
6 the dismissal rate and develop an implementation plan; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
8 community response teams would implement use of the Ontario
9 domestic assault risk assessment or a similar risk assessment
10 tool that would be documented in arrest reports, and this
11 information would be accessible to courts, probation officers,
12 batterers' intervention programs and victim services agencies;
13 and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
15 community response teams would work toward increasing the rate
16 of referral of victims to domestic violence service providers;
17 and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
19 community response teams would explore the Colorado model of
20 batterers' intervention programs; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico coalition
22 against domestic violence be requested to report its findings
23 and recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative
24 committee by October 1, 2019; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

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1 transmitted to the president of the New Mexico coalition
2 against domestic violence.

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