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**Wednesday, League of Women Voters of New Mexico to Present
2023 “Making Democracy Work” award to legislator Representative Natalie Figueroa**

The League of Women Voters of New Mexico is set to award its 2023 “Making Democracy Work” award to legislator Representative Natalie Figueroa (House District 30, Albuquerque) Representative Figueroa devotes a great deal of time at the New Mexico Legislature to issues that have contributed to making democracy work. The award will be presented to Figueroa Wednesday, July 12, in a public ceremony at 12 noon MDT at New Mexico First, 609 Broadway Blvd. NE.

Representative Figueroa has expressed an exemplary willingness to lead beyond the partisan divide to pass important legislation. In 2021 Representative Figueroa, a Democrat, worked with fellow legislators, including Republicans, to pass the Redistricting Act which created the Citizens Redistricting Committee. In the 2023 session she co-sponsored House Joint Resolution 1 (HJR1) with Republican Representative Jason Harper (House District 57, Rio Rancho) which would have placed the question of creation of an independent redistricting commission on the 2024 ballot.

In addition to her work improving the redistricting process, Representative Figueroa has worked with Senator Michael Padilla to pass legislation that expands access to broadband throughout New Mexico. Broad access to broadband enables more New Mexicans to fully participate in the political process.

In the 2023 legislative session Representative Figueroa sponsored HJR2 which would have reorganized the way the legislature operates to make it more effective. Representative Figueroa also co-sponsored HJR12, which, had it passed, would have allowed Declined to State voters and those enrolled in minor parties to participate in primary elections without changing their affiliation.

Representative Figueroa continues to sponsor legislation that helps make democracy work for New Mexicans while holding her position as a high school Spanish language instructor in the Albuquerque Public Schools.

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