

SENATE RESOLUTION 85

By Lamar

A RESOLUTION to honor Lisa Sherman Luna in celebration of Women's History Month in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the month of March was officially designated as Women's History Month in 1987; and

WHEREAS, every March, Women's History Month provides an opportunity to honor the achievements of those women who have paved the way wherein every person has an opportunity to pursue the American dream; and

WHEREAS, the Volunteer State is proud to be the home of a number of historic, pioneering women, including Lisa Sherman Luna, Executive Director of the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) and TIRRC Votes; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Luna joined TIRRC in October 2015 and served the organization as policy director for nearly five years before stepping into the role of executive director as the first Latina to lead the organization; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as executive director, she has helped the organization weather the COVID-19 pandemic, grow its staff, and settle into its new headquarters in the heart of the immigrant and refugee community in Antioch; and

WHEREAS, at TIRRC, Lisa Sherman Luna and her team invest in creating opportunities for immigrants to thrive and more fully contribute to their communities; from direct immigration legal services that help immigrants obtain work permits or U.S. citizenship to English classes and to sustaining a robust resource line that connects about 25,000 immigrants in Tennessee with information, TIRRC believes that investing in the success of immigrants in this State is investing in the success of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, the proud daughter of an American father and a Guatemalan mother, Lisa Sherman Luna grew up primarily in Guatemala before moving and finishing high school in Nashville; prior to moving back to Nashville and joining the TIRRC team, she worked in the international human rights field in New York, New York; London, England; and Senegal; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Luna holds a master's degree in conflict, security, and development from the Department of War Studies at King's College London, and she is fluent in Spanish and English; and

WHEREAS, along with her work in Tennessee, Lisa Sherman Luna is an executive committee member of the board of the National Partnership of New Americans and also serves as a board member of the National Immigration Law Center Immigrant Justice Fund; and

WHEREAS, in saluting Ms. Luna during Women's History Month, let us remember that when women succeed, America succeeds, as does Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor Lisa Sherman Luna on her many contributions to the State of Tennessee as we celebrate Women's History Month and the generations of trailblazing women who have built our State and their vital contributions to our country's history.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.