**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 479**

**WHEREAS**, The State of Texas has the largest number of women veterans in the country, and the observance of Women Veterans Day on June 12, 2021, provides a welcome occasion to recognize the women of El Paso who have rendered exemplary service to our nation's armed forces; and

**WHEREAS**, The Texas Legislature designated Women Veterans Day as an annual observance during the 85th Legislative Session in 2017; the date chosen, June 12, marked the 70th anniversary of the passage of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, which was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman in 1948; it enabled women to serve as permanent, regular members of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force; and

**WHEREAS**, In the decades that followed the signing of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, a series of laws were passed that eased restrictions on female military personnel, that allowed women to serve in command positions, and that expanded the number of military occupations available to women; in 2013, the Department of Defense lifted its ban on women in direct ground combat roles, ushering in the full integration of women in the military; today, women bring invaluable skills, expertise, and dedication to every branch of the armed forces, furthering the mission of our nation's military at home and abroad; and

**WHEREAS**, El Paso is fortunate to be home to a community of women veterans who have distinguished themselves through their courage, commitment, and patriotism, and it is a great privilege to join in recognizing their myriad contributions; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby honor El Paso women veterans of the armed forces on the occasion of Women Veterans Day and extend to them sincere appreciation for their service.

Blanco

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