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SOS Toulouse Oliver and Staff Attend Sexual Harassment and Workplace Ethics Training

SANTA FE – Continuing her efforts to confront issues of sexual harassment in state government head on, New Mexico Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver and her staff attended a training on workplace ethics and sexual harassment last week. The training, which was conducted by the New Mexico State Personnel Office, will be required for Secretary of State staff every two years, and every new hire will be required to attend a training as well.

“It’s important we all recognize what’s appropriate workplace behavior and understand how to confront any issues of misconduct that may arise,” said Secretary Toulouse Oliver. “I will keep doing my part to address sexual harassment in state government.”

Secretary Toulouse Oliver announced in November that she would offer voluntary sexual harassment training for lobbyists prior to each legislative session. Two trainings were held in January of this year and 112 registered lobbyists attended.

Secretary Toulouse Oliver also asked lobbyists for the first time to disclose on their 2018 registration forms if they have existing sexual harassment policies in place and whether they have received any sexual harassment training in the last twelve months. The responses from registered lobbyists, [have been displayed in a searchable format on the Secretary of State’s website](#).

Secretary Toulouse Oliver has also provided all lobbyists with [draft sexual harassment policies and background information on how to recognize and prevent harassment](#). The draft policies are intended to help lobbyists establish sexual harassment policies in their own offices or to improve upon existing policies.

During the 2018 legislative session, Secretary Toulouse Oliver pushed to give her office the authority to require that lobbyists attend sexual harassment trainings before being allowed to work at the Roundhouse. She worked with Representatives Elizabeth “Liz” Thomson, Jim Dines, and Angelica Rubio to craft legislation. The legislation, House Bill 313, was not placed on the legislature’s agenda by the governor, but Secretary Toulouse Oliver has vowed to continue pushing the legislation in future sessions.

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