

House Engrossed

Honorable Martha Garcia; death resolution

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

HOUSE RESOLUTION 2005

A RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE MARTHA GARCIA.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 The Honorable Martha Garcia, former state representative and
2 community leader, passed away at the age of 80.

3 A Tempe native, Martha graduated from Tempe Union High School in
4 1963 and was known for her love of Arizona and its people. She also
5 attended leadership training at Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles,
6 California and Nashville, Tennessee.

7 A relentless supporter of the most defenseless in our society,
8 Martha always put the needs of others before her own. She distinguished
9 herself as an exceptional public servant throughout her lifetime. Deeply
10 devoted to community issues, Martha was President of the Cartwright
11 Elementary School Board to which she was elected in 1998.

12 Martha later served as a member of the Arizona House of
13 Representatives from 2004 to 2010, where she advocated for families and
14 children. Among her accomplishments, she sponsored bills that required
15 booster seats for children and that prohibited prison employees from
16 restraining pregnant prisoners who were in or recovering from labor and
17 delivery. She worked in support of crime victims, ushering into law
18 legislation that allows victims to receive a free copy of a police report
19 and allows employees to leave work to obtain an order of
20 protection. Representative Garcia also pushed for stronger regulations
21 related to illegal dumping.

22 Martha also gave generously of her time and enthusiasm with various
23 organizations, despite her abundant work commitments. She was deeply
24 engaged in grassroots organizing with the Valley Interfaith Project
25 beginning in the late 1980s and was involved in the sponsoring committee.
26 A fervent supporter of children and education, Martha was an active member
27 of the National School Boards Association, a member of the Executive Task
28 Force on Student Achievement with the Council of Urban Boards of Education
29 and the cochair of the Building Blocks Governing Board, which addressed
30 disparities in the juvenile system. She also served as a member of the
31 Maryvale Hospital Board of Trustees and was the executive director of the
32 Valley-Community Revitalization Project, which was an affordable housing
33 initiative in Maryvale. Martha was also President of the Maryvale Village
34 Block Watch Alliance and served on the Phoenix Police Department's Use of
35 Force Disciplinary Board. She was also extremely involved in the C.W.
36 Harris School community, playing a key role in its development, and was
37 honored for her contributions and unwavering commitment to improving the
38 lives of others at the grand opening of the C.W. Harris school gym in
39 November 2022.

40 A devoted mother, passionate public servant and dedicated advocate,
41 Martha will be deeply missed and fondly remembered for her selflessness
42 and service.

1 Therefore

2 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona:

3 That the Members of the House of Representatives express their
4 regrets at the passing of the Honorable Martha Garcia and extend their
5 condolences to her family and many friends.