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LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS
53rd Legislature, 2nd Session, 2018

Bill Number	<u>SM95</u>	Sponsor	<u>Ortiz y Pino</u>
Tracking Number	<u>.210392.1</u>	Committee Referrals	<u>SPAC</u>
Short Title	<u>Reconvene J. Paul Taylor Child Task Force</u>		
Analyst	<u>McCorquodale</u>	Original Date	<u>2/7/18</u>
		Last Updated	<u></u>

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 95 (SM95) proposes the J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force reconvene for an additional year to continue work in investigating the effects of parental mental illness, substance use disorders, and family violence on young children and recommendations for a two-generation behavioral health system; promoting screening for adverse childhood events statewide; and obtaining operational definitions of “child neglect” as well as “adequate and appropriate parenting.” The memorial requests the task force to report its findings to the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee by November 1, 2018 and copies be sent to the president of the University of New Mexico, the 2017 chair of the J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force, and the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee. The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNMHSC) would convene the task force.

FISCAL IMPACT

Legislative memorials do not carry appropriations.

SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

In response to House Memorial 75 and Senate Memorial 5 of the 2014 legislative session, UNMHSC convened the J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force and developed recommendations to strengthen New Mexico’s early childhood behavioral health services system. The J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force has met for the past five years and has made annual reports with recommendations to the governor and the Legislature. The J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force has also served as a subcommittee to the Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) in the past year.

The Early Childhood Care and Education Act outlines detailed statutory responsibilities of ELAC. Part of the responsibilities include making recommendations to the Children, Youth and Families Department and the Legislature on how to coordinate and align an early childhood care and education system that comprise child care, prekindergarten, home visitation, early head start, head

start, early childhood special education, early intervention, and family support that ensures New Mexico families have consistent access to appropriate care and education services. ELAC is also charged with ensuring effective collaboration with state and local child welfare programs and early childhood health and behavioral health programs.

The Legislative Finance Committee's *2017 Early Childhood Accountability Report* shows the rate of repeat maltreatment of children in New Mexico at 11.7 percent, down from 12.3 percent in FY16. However, the national rate for repeat maltreatment of children is 5.4 percent.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- LESC Files
- Legislative Finance Committee

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