

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 14

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

A JOINT MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT TO
CREATE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY LICENSING ALL CHILD CARE
FACILITIES THAT RECEIVE STATE REIMBURSEMENT.**

**WHEREAS, every child in New Mexico deserves the
opportunity to experience healthy, normal development; and**

**WHEREAS, children receiving child care services
subsidized by the state need to be assured of minimum
standards of health, safety and professional nurturing and
caregiving; and**

**WHEREAS, at least sixty percent of state-subsidized child
care is provided through unlicensed child care facilities
where the quality and standards of the environment and of care
are unknown; and**

WHEREAS, by subsidizing child care at these unlicensed

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 facilities, the state of New Mexico is paying for care that
2 may be substandard; and

3 WHEREAS, reimbursement rates currently paid for child
4 care by the state are below market value; and

5 WHEREAS, if the state raised reimbursement rates for
6 subsidized child care at licensed facilities and only
7 subsidized care at licensed facilities, such circumstances
8 would provide ample incentive for all child care facilities to
9 become licensed and thereby improve child care for all
10 children;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the children, youth and families
13 department be requested to create a task force to develop a
14 plan to license all providers that receive or are eligible to
15 receive state reimbursement for child care services; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
17 experts in child care outside the department, parents of
18 preschool children who qualify for subsidized child care at
19 current eligibility standards, representatives of children and
20 family advocacy groups, statewide groups and associations
21 representing child care providers of all categories, educators
22 in early childhood and other interested parties; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan include cost
24 projections and a timetable to implement recommended changes;
25 and

. 139576. 1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force and the secretary of children, youth and families present the plan and recommendations to the interim legislative health and human services committee and the legislative finance committee at their respective October 2002 meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of children, youth and families, the interim legislative health and human services committee and the legislative finance committee.