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HOUSE MEMORIAL 37

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

J. Paul Taylor

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO APPOINT A TASK FORCE TO STUDY FOOD QUALITY, THE EFFECT OF FOOD ADDITIVES LIKE ASPARTAME AND TOXIC CHEMICAL PRODUCTS, MEASURES TO PROTECT THE INTEGRITY OF NEW MEXICO'S FOOD PRODUCTION PROCESSES, HARMFUL PROCESSES APPLIED TO FOOD, METHODS TO CURB THE CONSUMPTION OF UNHEALTHY FOOD AND THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASING STANDARDS THAT APPLY TO LIMITING OR LABELING FOOD ADDITIVES.

WHEREAS, the need to study the medical and biochemical issues pertaining to nutrition has ongoing and vital relevancy for all New Mexicans; and

WHEREAS, a systematic examination of the epidemiological effects of additives like aspartame, ingredients like phosphoric acid and toxic chemical products like herbicides on the health of hundreds of New Mexicans who felt these

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1 substances were "safe", but have been shown to have deleterious
2 effects on New Mexicans, is important; and

3 WHEREAS, improving the quality of food grown in, produced
4 in or imported into New Mexico is necessary to improve the
5 basic nutritional needs for all New Mexicans; and

6 WHEREAS, there is a need to review the serious control and
7 manipulation of the approval processes of the United States
8 food and drug administration in relation to the development of
9 standards as they apply to the food supply; and

10 WHEREAS, limiting or labeling additives to food that are
11 carcinogenic, neurotoxic or otherwise deleterious will improve
12 the quality of food available to New Mexicans; and

13 WHEREAS, it is necessary to investigate and identify
14 processes that, when applied to foods, are harmful to human
15 health; and

16 WHEREAS, it is necessary to curb the consumption of
17 unhealthy food and to promote good nutrition among New
18 Mexicans; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexicans are in need of information about
20 food quality, food additives and potentially harmful processes
21 to make good nutritional choices;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
23 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be
24 requested to appoint a task force comprised of representatives
25 from the department of health, the department of environment,

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1 the public education department, the university of New Mexico
2 health sciences center, the New Mexico department of
3 agriculture, the organic commodity commission, the New Mexico
4 livestock board, the office of the attorney general and the
5 chair of the nutrition and dietetics practice board; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor be requested to
7 appoint to the task force, in his discretion, other
8 representatives of the public, such as internists, family
9 practitioners, pediatricians, cardiologists, toxicologists,
10 ranchers, farmers, biochemists and nutritionists; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor request the task
12 force to study the quality of the food grown in, produced in
13 and imported into New Mexico, measures to be taken to protect
14 the integrity and success of New Mexico's food production
15 processes, methods to curb the consumption of unhealthy foods
16 and the possibility of increasing the standards that apply to
17 limiting or labeling food additives that are carcinogenic,
18 neurotoxic or otherwise deleterious; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor request the task
20 force to investigate and identify processes that, when applied
21 to foods, are harmful to human health; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor request the task
23 force to report its findings and recommendations to the
24 governor and the legislature by January 1, 2005; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

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transmitted to the governor.