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SENATE MEMORIAL 51

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

Joseph J. Carraro

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT
PREVENTION EDUCATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO TEACH THE
DANGERS OF ANABOLIC STEROID ABUSE.

WHEREAS, anabolic steroids are artificial substances
related to male sex hormones that athletes often use to build
muscle and improve athletic performance; and

WHEREAS, using anabolic steroids in this way is neither
legal nor safe, and their use by athletes can cause heart
problems, including cardiac arrest, liver disease and
aggressive behavior; and

WHEREAS, the national institute on drug abuse reports
that, in adolescents, anabolic steroid abuse can halt bone
growth and has been associated with damage to the heart,
kidneys and liver, as well as problems with sexual development;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, there is a great deal of anecdotal evidence
3 linking anabolic steroid use with suicide and extremely
4 unpredictable and aggressive behavior; and

5 WHEREAS, despite all of the warnings issued by the health
6 care community, adolescent athletes are under increasing
7 pressure to use anabolic steroids in order to obtain a
8 competitive edge when seeking sports scholarships and career
9 opportunities; and

10 WHEREAS, in light of the severity of the threat that
11 anabolic steroids pose to adolescents, the states of Florida,
12 New Jersey and Texas have passed legislation to implement
13 anabolic steroid testing programs for high school students; and

14 WHEREAS, the state of Oregon has passed legislation to
15 provide for teaching students about the dangers of anabolic
16 steroid abuse;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
18 OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be requested
19 to develop and implement, at the earliest opportunity, an
20 educational anabolic steroid abuse prevention program aimed at
21 high school students to teach the dangers of anabolic steroid
22 abuse; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the secretary of public education.

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