

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 79

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Eleanor Chavez

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO ASSIGN A STUDY OF PENAL SYSTEM REFORM TO THE APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, it is essential that prisoners in New Mexico's penal system be prepared to reenter society as contributing citizens; and

WHEREAS, proper psychological rehabilitation and job training are necessary to prepare a prisoner for release; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that prisoners at private prisons have the same opportunities and programs as prisoners at state-owned facilities; and

WHEREAS, a study needs to be performed to look at these issues as well as other issues related to penal system reform;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be

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1 requested to assign a study of penal system reform to the
2 appropriate interim committee; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include the
4 psychological rehabilitation being given to prisoners before
5 release; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include the job
7 training and other career programs being offered to prisoners
8 in New Mexico, including job placement programs for prisoners
9 scheduled to be released; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include an
11 examination of how probation and parole officers may assist
12 with the employment of parolees; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include how programs
14 and opportunities for prisoners at private institutions differ
15 from those offered prisoners at state-owned institutions; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the results of the study be
17 submitted to the governor and to the second session of the
18 forty-ninth legislature; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
21 council.

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