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SENATE MEMORIAL 34

**49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010**

INTRODUCED BY

Gerald Ortiz y Pino

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE SUCCESS OF YOUTH ADVISORY BOARDS AND COUNCILS  
AT THE CITY LEVEL AND ENCOURAGING INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITIES  
AND COUNTIES TO CREATE YOUTH COUNCILS AT THE CITY OR TOWN LEVEL  
AND YOUTH COMMISSIONS AT THE COUNTY LEVEL IN ORDER TO FORMALLY  
PROVIDE COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THE YOUTH VOICE WHILE INVOLVING  
YOUTH IN THE FUTURE OF THEIR COMMUNITIES.

WHEREAS, the second session of the forty-eighth  
legislature approved Senate Memorial 4, recognizing and  
endorsing the Las Vegas youth commission as a model youth  
participation project in local governance; and

WHEREAS, since 1992, the national league of cities has  
incorporated the youth voice into its institute for youth,  
education and families; and

WHEREAS, the mayors of Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Farmington

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1 and Alamogordo support and have formally created a governmental  
2 role for the youth voice in their respective communities and  
3 have demonstrated the community worth of this concept; and

4 WHEREAS, there is a demonstrated need for youth to  
5 participate in the governance system of their communities on  
6 all matters affecting young people, such as building healthier  
7 communities, combating violence, conducting public forums and  
8 advising on youth-appropriate substance abuse programming, and  
9 to participate on behalf of community youth on such issues as  
10 curfews, cruising, truancy, skateboard parks, underage drinking  
11 and "youth space" programming; and

12 WHEREAS, these councils and commissions provide viable  
13 youth channels for service learning and community and civic  
14 engagement programs where they do not currently exist;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
16 OF NEW MEXICO that it encourage the creation of youth councils  
17 at the incorporated municipality, pueblo and reservation levels  
18 and youth commissions at the county level; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that school districts, universities  
20 and community colleges be encouraged to work with these youth  
21 councils and commissions to realize the success of future  
22 service learning and community and civic engagement programs;  
23 and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
25 transmitted to each incorporated municipality, tribe, pueblo,

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1 reservation, county, school district, university and community  
2 college in New Mexico.

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