

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE INTERIM LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
3 COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF COMBINING THE  
4 ADMINISTRATION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
5 FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS INTO ONE STATE DEPARTMENT AND  
6 REQUESTING FEDERAL FACILITATION OF EFFORTS TO STREAMLINE  
7 ADMINISTRATION OF THOSE PROGRAMS.

8  
9 WHEREAS, New Mexico suffers from chronic hunger problems  
10 and leads the nation with children living in food-insecure  
11 households, according to feeding America, a nationwide  
12 network of food banks; and

13 WHEREAS, state-administered United States department of  
14 agriculture food distribution programs have been highly  
15 effective tools for addressing hunger, but bureaucratic  
16 complexity at times creates barriers to participation in  
17 these important programs; and

18 WHEREAS, New Mexico currently administers its  
19 United States department of agriculture food distribution  
20 programs through several different state agencies, including  
21 the public education department, the children, youth and  
22 families department and the human services department; and

23 WHEREAS, reducing bureaucratic complexity could simplify  
24 application processes, facilitate appropriate data sharing  
25 among programs, reduce administrative costs and increase

1 governmental efficiency;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interim legislative health  
4 and human services committee be requested to study the  
5 feasibility of combining the administration of all  
6 state-administered food distribution programs, including the  
7 supplemental nutrition assistance program, the national  
8 school lunch program, the child and adult care food program,  
9 the school breakfast program, the summer food service  
10 program, the special supplemental nutrition program for  
11 women, infants and children, the emergency food assistance  
12 program and others, into a single existing state department;  
13 and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the  
15 New Mexico congressional delegation be requested to work with  
16 the United States department of agriculture to facilitate any  
17 efforts to streamline the administration of its food  
18 distribution programs within state agencies; 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, the chair of the legislative health and human  
22 services committee, the secretary of public education, the  
23 secretary of children, youth and families and the secretary of  
24 human services. \_\_\_\_\_