

HOUSE MEMORIAL 58

**53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017**

INTRODUCED BY

Rodolpho "Rudy" S. Martinez and Javier Martínez

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT A TASK FORCE BE EXTENDED TO STUDY AND RECOMMEND  
POLICY CHANGES TO EXPAND THE AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES AND  
ASSISTANCE FOR GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN.

WHEREAS, in 2014 the children, youth and families  
department published a study on the availability of resources  
to grandparents raising grandchildren, which study revealed a  
dearth of public services and resources available to  
grandparents raising grandchildren and, in particular, to  
grandparents who lack legal custody of their grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, a task force was convened in 2015 to study and  
recommend concrete policy changes that could be implemented to  
expand the availability of resources and assistance to  
grandparents raising grandchildren, including financial  
resources; legal services; and assistance with food, housing,

.206339.1

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 medical care, child care, transportation and education; and

2 WHEREAS, the task force delivered its recommendations in  
3 2016 to the legislative health and human services committee and  
4 the legislative finance committee; and

5 WHEREAS, the recommendations included extending the task  
6 force for an additional year to continue its studies and refine  
7 its recommendations;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
9 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the task force,  
10 including members who represent New Mexico voices for children,  
11 Pegasus legal services for children, the New Mexico coalition  
12 of educational leaders, court appointed special advocates for  
13 children, the New Mexico parent-teacher association, parents  
14 reaching out, the American association of retired persons and  
15 Las Cumbres community services, inc.; one representative each  
16 from the human services department, the children, youth and  
17 families department, the children's court, the public education  
18 department, the aging and long-term services department and the  
19 office of the attorney general; and two members from the  
20 general public, be extended; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force study and  
22 recommend concrete policy changes that could be implemented in  
23 order to expand the availability of resources and assistance to  
24 grandparents raising grandchildren, including financial  
25 resources; legal services; food and housing assistance; and

.206339.1

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 programs relating to medical care, child care, transportation  
2 and education; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the human services department,  
4 the children, youth and families department and the aging and  
5 long-term services department be requested to coordinate and  
6 provide staff support to the task force; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its  
8 findings and recommendations to the legislative health and  
9 human services committee and the legislative finance committee  
10 no later than November 2017; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
12 transmitted to the secretary of human services, the secretary  
13 of children, youth and families and the secretary of aging and  
14 long-term services.

15 - 3 -  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25