

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 101

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Gerald Ortiz y Pino

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO AND MEMBERS OF THE
12 2018 J. PAUL TAYLOR EARLY CHILDHOOD TASK FORCE AND REQUESTING
13 THEM TO RECONVENE THE J. PAUL TAYLOR EARLY CHILDHOOD TASK FORCE
14 IN 2019.

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16 WHEREAS, since 2013, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood
17 task force, made up of experts in child well-being, early
18 childhood development, health care, social work, education,
19 government, public benefits, law and administration as well as
20 other areas of expertise, has met at the legislature's request
21 to analyze matters relating to children's well-being and make
22 recommendations on improving children's well-being to the
23 legislature and other policymakers; and

24 WHEREAS, in recent years, the university of New Mexico has
25 volunteered to convene and provide administrative support for

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1 the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force; and

2 WHEREAS, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force is
3 named for former long-time member of the New Mexico house of
4 representatives, J. Paul Taylor, of Mesilla, New Mexico, who
5 has contributed greatly to the field of children's rights and
6 well-being during his long and distinguished career in public
7 service; and

8 WHEREAS, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force has
9 done much in recent years to educate the legislature and other
10 policymakers on critical aspects of childhood development and
11 the role that policymakers play in supporting the health and
12 well-being of children and their families; and

13 WHEREAS, in 2018, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task
14 force recommended changes to state law that would clarify the
15 role of hospitals and birthing centers in referring abuse and
16 neglect cases to the children, youth and families department
17 based solely on the finding of a pregnant woman's positive
18 toxicology screen; and

19 WHEREAS, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force
20 engaged with various stakeholders, including the Comprehensive
21 Addiction and Recovery Act task force at the children, youth
22 and families department, to incorporate into its
23 recommendations various federal requirements for the safe care
24 of infants born with substance use disorders or showing
25 withdrawal symptoms; and

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1 WHEREAS, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force
2 plans to continue its work on recommendations to address the
3 effect of substance use on pregnant women and children in the
4 first three years of life, specifically to study and build upon
5 a model of developmental assets developed by a national
6 nonprofit organization that studies and works to strengthen
7 youth success in schools, youth programs, families and
8 communities; and

9 WHEREAS, such a model identifies a number of research-
10 based, external experiences and internal qualities that support
11 children's development, helping them create and maintain
12 resilience to become caring, responsible and productive adults;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
14 OF NEW MEXICO that the dedicated members of the J. Paul Taylor
15 early childhood task force and the university of New Mexico be
16 recognized for their work on behalf of the youngest New
17 Mexicans; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the university of New Mexico
19 be requested to reconvene the J. Paul Taylor early childhood
20 task force in 2019 to continue its work in investigating the
21 effects of parental mental illness, substance use disorders and
22 family violence on young children and its work in making
23 recommendations to address these issues; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the J. Paul Taylor early
25 childhood task force be requested to report its findings and

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1 recommendations to the legislative health and human services
2 committee by November 1, 2019; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
4 transmitted to the president of the university of New Mexico,
5 the 2018 chair of the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force
6 and the chair and vice chair of the legislative health and
7 human services committee.