

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 17

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

William P. Soules

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE 2 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 25 TO ESTABLISH RIGHTS OF CHILDREN TO INCLUDE HEALTH CARE, NUTRITION, SAFE HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION TO ACCESS SERVICES, HOME VISITATION, EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS, FULLY RESOURCED COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS, YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS AND ATTAINMENT OF SKILLS FOR QUALITY EMPLOYMENT; AND TO REQUIRE ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF LAWS TO PROTECT THOSE RIGHTS.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. It is proposed to amend Article 2 of the constitution of New Mexico by adding a new Section 25 to read:

"Laws shall be enacted by the second session of the fifty-seventh legislature and those laws shall be administered in a manner to preserve the following rights, which are

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

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

1 established for each child in New Mexico:

2 A. the right to medical and dental health care that
3 is timely and accessible;

4 B. the right to behavioral health care that is
5 solution-focused and culturally sensitive, available to all
6 children's families and household members;

7 C. the right to nutritious food without having to
8 endure hunger, food insecurity or stigma;

9 D. the right to stable, healthy and safe housing
10 with electricity, plumbing, heat and internet access;

11 E. the right to transportation in order to reach
12 educational, recreational and vital services;

13 F. the right to live in a community that provides
14 home visitation programs starting at birth to ensure safe
15 households, parental support and education and navigation to
16 local vital services;

17 G. the right to early childhood learning programs
18 that prepare children for school;

19 H. the right to fully resourced community schools,
20 with staffing to ensure an enriching academic and cultural
21 experience, as well as a school-based health center to provide
22 medical, dental and mental health care to students and family
23 members;

24 I. the right to youth mentorship programs in many
25 forms in order to support recreational activities and

.226907.2

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

1 strengthen physical health, academic skills and interpersonal
2 communication skills; and

3 J. the right to acquire all the skills needed to
4 maintain quality employment, including education aligned with
5 job markets and job readiness and placement programs."

6 SECTION 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution
7 shall be submitted to the people for their approval or
8 rejection at the next general election or at any special
9 election prior to that date that may be called for that
10 purpose.