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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 12

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

DEDE FELDMAN

FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE REFORM COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO LEAD A STUDY OF THE
NEEDS FOR AND BEST METHODS OF PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE STATEWIDE
MENTAL HEALTH IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, New Mexico wants to support the academic needs
and educational success of our children; and

WHEREAS, school children face multiple barriers to
successful learning, including biological learning problems,
personal and family issues, a lack of coordinated and
accessible school and community assessment resources and
service programs and a lack of teacher training and resources;
and

WHEREAS, New Mexico ranks in the top fifteen states in
the rates of alcoholism, public school dropouts, domestic
violence, poverty and violent teen death; and

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1 WHEREAS, children in our schools have need of multiple
2 mental health resources, as documented by both state and
3 national data showing that more than one-third of all children
4 seen in school-based health centers have primary mental health
5 needs; and

6 WHEREAS, students require an integrated continuum of
7 services, but children's outpatient mental health services in
8 New Mexico are scarce, lacking in coordination and difficult
9 to access; and

10 WHEREAS, over fifty percent of all children detained in
11 the juvenile justice system meet criteria for at least one
12 mental health diagnosis; and

13 WHEREAS, under the federal Individuals with Disabilities
14 Education Act, schools have clear responsibility to evaluate
15 students with behavioral health needs for disabilities and to
16 provide appropriate services; and

17 WHEREAS, the implementation of medicaid managed care
18 requires that schools take a more pivotal role, collaborating
19 with community providers to ensure quality behavioral health
20 services; and

21 WHEREAS, students face daily multiple life stresses, have
22 multiple mental health needs and require coordinated services
23 to break down barriers to learning in order to achieve success
24 in education;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that a task force be formed to study
2 programs and needs relevant to school mental health throughout
3 New Mexico and to propose solutions to these needs and options
4 to improve existing programs; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of school health
6 in the public health division of the department of health be
7 designated as the lead agency to organize the task force and
8 conduct the study; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
10 representatives from the department of health, the state
11 department of public education, the children, youth and
12 families department, the human services department, the
13 corrections department, the administrative office of the
14 courts, the children's subcommittee of the governor's mental
15 health planning council, the developmental disabilities
16 planning council, the Individuals with Disabilities Education
17 Act council and a wide range of consumers, advocates and
18 providers working in the mental health field and other
19 appropriate individuals and groups concerned about children's
20 mental health, including school personnel; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force's
22 recommendations include clarification of the responsibilities
23 and authority of each agency for providing programs and
24 assessment of and recommendations on information collected by
25 the agencies that may be helpful in improving school mental

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1 health programs; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force study
3 financial resources from all governmental sources that
4 contribute to school mental health programs and whether these
5 resources can be used more efficiently in delivering the
6 needed programs; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include examination
8 and specific recommendations for both intra-agency and
9 interagency cooperation to ensure maximum cooperation in
10 providing school mental health programs; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include an
12 examination of and recommendations on increased training for
13 all school personnel, including teachers, counselors, nurses,
14 social workers, psychologists and others, as their work
15 relates to improving school mental health; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its
17 findings and recommendations by October 30, 1998 to the
18 interim legislative health and human services committee and
19 the legislative education study committee; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
21 sent to the director of the office of school health of the
22 public health division of the department of health for
23 distribution to all appropriate parties.

1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

SJM 12/a

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5 January 29, 1998

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7 Mr. President:

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9 Your RULES COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

10
11 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 12

12
13 has had it under consideration and reports same with
14 recommendation that it DO PASS, amended as follows

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16 1. On page 1, strike line 8 and insert in lieu thereof "FOR
17 THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE".

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20 and thence referred to the EDUCATION COMMITTEE.
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23 Respectfully submitted,

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Gloria Howes, Chairman

Adopted _____ Not

Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was __ For __ Against

Yes:

No:

Excused:

Absent:

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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

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5 February 11, 1998

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7 Mr. President:

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9 Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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11 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 12, as amended

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13 has had it under consideration and reports same with
14 recommendation that it DO PASS.

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16 Respectfully submitted,

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23 Cynthia Nava, Chairman

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Adopted _____ Not

Adopted _____

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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

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8 The roll call vote was 6 For 1 Against

9 Yes: 6

10 No: Boitano

11 Excused: Duran, Garcia, Gorham

12 Absent: None

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1 **FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**
2 **SECOND SESSION, 1998**
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6 **February 18, 1998**
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8 **Mr. Speaker:**
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10 **Your LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE, to whom**
11 **has been referred**
12

13 **SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 12, as amended**
14 **has had it under consideration and reports same with**
15 **recommendation that it DO PASS.**
16

17 **Respectfully submitted,**
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21 _____
22 **Sheryl M. Williams, Chairman**
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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

3 Page 10

4 Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____
5 (Chi ef Clerk) (Chi ef Clerk)

6
7 Date _____

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9 The roll call vote was 6 For 1 Against

10 Yes: 6

11 No: Marquardt

12 Excused: Macko

13 Absent: None

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