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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 12

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Patsy Trujillo Knauer

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING A STUDY BY THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES
DEPARTMENT ON THE PAY SCALE OF ITS SOCIAL WORKERS AND THE
ADVISABILITY OF EMPLOYING ADDITIONAL CLERICAL STAFF TO PERMIT
MORE TIME FOR SOCIAL WORK COUNSELING.

WHEREAS, the responsibilities of social workers in the
children, youth and families department are especially
valuable and needed by their very vulnerable client
population; and

WHEREAS, social work is the most important part of the
state's services to many of these clients; and

WHEREAS, unlike many state employees who deal directly
with the public, social workers must, once the client contact
is over, repeat the experience by filling out forms about that
contact in response to the myriad demands of both state and

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1 federal bureaucracies; and

2 WHEREAS, certain private agencies involved in child
3 welfare efforts are currently using their own resources to
4 assist department social workers by collating and distributing
5 materials needed by other state agencies; and

6 WHEREAS, hiring of additional clerical personnel for the
7 specific reason to assist social workers with required
8 paperwork would accomplish the very desirable goal of
9 permitting those licensed professionals to provide desperately
10 needed counseling rather than filling out bureaucratic forms;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, these same social workers are paid less than
13 those employed by the five states contiguous to New Mexico;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, if the state expects to resolve some of its
16 social and human needs problems through the services of hired
17 professionals, it must pay them a living wage comparable to
18 their peers across the country;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the children, youth and families
21 department examine the work loads and pay scale of its social
22 workers and report its findings and recommendations to the
23 interim legislative health and human services committee by
24 September 1, 1999.

1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999
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6 February 2, 1999
7

8 Mr. Speaker:
9

10 Your CONSUMER AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to
11 whom has been referred
12

13 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 12
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15 has had it under consideration and reports same with
16 recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
17 APPROPRIATIONS & FINANCE COMMITTEE.

18 Respectfully submitted,
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22 _____
23 Patsy Trujillo Knauer,
24 Chairwoman
25

FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

HCPAC/HJ 012

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 6 For 0 Against

Yes: 6

Excused: Hawkins

Absent: None

J: \99BillSWP\HJ012

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1 FORTY- FOURTH LEGISLATURE
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999

3
4 February 19, 1999

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6
7 Mr. Speaker:

8
9 Your APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, to
10 whom has been referred

11 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 12

12
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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20 _____
21 Max Coll, Chair man
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 11 For 0 Against

Yes: 11

Excused: Buffett, Heaton, Parsons, Salazar, Taylor, Watchman

Absent: None

J: \99BillSWP\HJ012

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