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**HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 78**

**45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002**

**INTRODUCED BY**

**Ron Godbey**

**FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**A JOINT MEMORIAL**

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO STUDY AND IDENTIFY THE HEALTH AND EDUCATION BENEFITS OF REPLACING CARBONATED SOFT DRINK MACHINES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH MACHINES OFFERING HEALTHY, NUTRITIOUS ALTERNATIVES.**

**WHEREAS, carbonated soft drinks are heavily promoted and generally very sweet snack beverages; and**

**WHEREAS, the contents of these beverages offer little in the way of healthy nutrition but are consistently very high in sugar and often contain caffeine; and**

**WHEREAS, experienced teachers readily testify to the disturbing influence of carbonated soft drink consumption on students' attention and ability to learn; and**

**WHEREAS, children of elementary school age cannot be**

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1       relied upon to make healthy choices of beverages offering  
2       nutritious contents; and

3               WHEREAS, the state department of public education, the  
4       department of health and others have a desire and an  
5       obligation to address the health and welfare of children  
6       attending public schools; and

7               WHEREAS, the ready availability of soda dispensing  
8       machines in many elementary schools encourages children to  
9       make unhealthy choices of beverages; and

10              WHEREAS, nutritious alternative beverages are available  
11       and can be offered in lieu of carbonated soft drinks;

12              NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
13       STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health be requested  
14       to lead a study, with the participation of the state  
15       department of public education and others, to identify the  
16       health and education benefits and methods of replacing  
17       carbonated soft drink machines in elementary schools with  
18       devices offering healthy, nutritious alternatives; and

19              BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include  
20       participation from the health sciences center of the  
21       university of New Mexico, statewide associations of  
22       nutritionists and other interested parties; and

23              BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health  
24       reports its findings and recommendations to the legislative  
25       health and human services committee and the legislative

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1 education study committee at their respective October 2002  
2 meetings; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
4 sent to the department of health, the state department of  
5 public education, the legislative health and human services  
6 committee and the legislative education study committee.

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