

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL 491

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILDREN; CREATING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY METHODS TO
DIVERT CHILDREN FROM A LIFE OF CRIME; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

Section 1. TASK FORCE CREATED--MEMBERSHIP--DUTIES.--

A. The children, youth and families department shall establish a task force to study programs that serve to divert children from a life of crime.

B. The task force shall include a representative of the state department of public education; two representatives of the children, youth and families department; a representative of the department of health; a representative of the human services department; a designee appointed by the supreme court; a representative of the New Mexico municipal league; a representative of the New Mexico association of

. 145071. 3

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 counties; a representative of the county maternal and child
2 health planning council as provided for in the County Maternal
3 and Child Health Plan Act; three public members from interested
4 child-oriented organizations; a representative of the public
5 defender department; and a law enforcement representative. All
6 task force members and the chair shall be appointed by the
7 secretary of children, youth and families.

8 C. The task force shall examine programs providing
9 opportunities to divert children from a life of crime,
10 including:

11 (1) home visits by child development
12 professionals starting before birth and continuing for the
13 first two years of a child's life;

14 (2) training for parents and therapy for
15 families with school-age children who have exhibited
16 inappropriate aggression or otherwise demonstrated unhealthy
17 behavior in school;

18 (3) creating incentives, including cash, to
19 induce disadvantaged students to complete their education; and

20 (4) monitoring and supervising youth who have
21 exhibited delinquent behavior.

22 D. The task force shall make a preliminary report
23 to the legislative education study committee, the corrections
24 oversight and justice committee, the legislative finance
25 committee and the interim legislative health and human services

1 committee at their respective October 2003 meetings and shall
2 present its final report, including legislative
3 recommendations, to the same committees by October 2004.

4 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. -- One hundred thirty-five
5 thousand dollars (\$135,000) is appropriated from the general
6 fund to the children, youth and families department for
7 expenditure in fiscal years 2004 and 2005 to support the work
8 of the task force created in Section 1 of this act. Any
9 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
10 fiscal year 2005 shall revert to the general fund.