

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 42

2 46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Lidio G. Rainaldi

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7
8 FOR THE CORRECTIONS OVERSIGHT AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT, THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND
12 FAMILIES DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ASSESS
13 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT SERVICES AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
14 TREATMENT SERVICES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO ARE INCARCERATED.

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16 WHEREAS, recidivism rates for female inmates are
17 substantially higher than recidivism rates for male inmates,
18 indicating that treatment services for women in the prison
19 system and in the community are inadequate; and

20 WHEREAS, women and girls use mental health services
21 thirty-three percent more often than men; and

22 WHEREAS, gender-specific treatment services have a
23 beneficial, therapeutic effect on women and help reduce
24 recidivism rates for female inmates; and

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1 WHEREAS, there is not a mental health unit for women in
2 the correctional system; and

3 WHEREAS, women who are incarcerated at the women's
4 correctional facility in Grants receive minimal behavioral
5 health treatment services and substance abuse treatment
6 services; and

7 WHEREAS, girls who are incarcerated at the youth
8 diagnostic and development center in Albuquerque do not have
9 access to a behavioral health treatment facility or a substance
10 abuse treatment facility; and

11 WHEREAS, a report completed pursuant to House Joint
12 Memorial 26 of the first session of the forty-sixth legislature
13 recommended housing girls in a separate lodge at the Sequoyah
14 treatment facility; and

15 WHEREAS, the lack of behavioral health treatment services
16 and substance abuse treatment services for women and girls who
17 are incarcerated is one of the most obvious examples of the
18 lack of gender equity in the provision of services to females;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the corrections department, the
21 children, youth and families department and the department of
22 health be requested to assess behavioral treatment services and
23 substance abuse treatment services for women and girls who are
24 incarcerated; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the corrections department,

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1 the children, youth and families department and the department
2 of health be requested to implement the recommendations set
3 forth in the report completed pursuant to House Joint Memorial
4 26 of the first session of the forty-sixth legislature; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the corrections department,
6 the children, youth and families department and the department
7 of health be requested to report their findings, including
8 recommendations for legislation, to the interim corrections
9 oversight and justice committee no later than November 1, 2004;
10 and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
12 transmitted to the secretary of corrections, the secretary of
13 children, youth and families and the secretary of health.

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