

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT
3 OF HEALTH TO EVALUATE THE POSITIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES OF THE
4 NATIVE AMERICAN SOCCER PROGRAM AND THE ANNUAL INDIGENOUS
5 SOCCER CUP ORGANIZED BY SOUTHWEST YOUTH SERVICES,
6 INCORPORATED.

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8 WHEREAS, Southwest Youth Services, Incorporated, was
9 selected by the executive council of the World Indigenous
10 Games Society to serve as the organizer of Native American
11 United States soccer teams to represent the United States in
12 the 2012 inaugural World Indigenous Games in Manitoba,
13 Canada; and

14 WHEREAS, Southwest Youth Services, Incorporated,
15 maintains a year-round Native American soccer program and
16 facilitates the annual Indigenous Soccer Cup, a weeklong
17 international soccer tournament with community development
18 and training for Native American youth; and

19 WHEREAS, the Native American soccer program is
20 year-round and community-based, with programming support from
21 AmeriCorps and the AmeriCorps Vista program, and provides
22 culturally based positive youth development training and risk
23 prevention programs for Native American youth across New
24 Mexico; and

25 WHEREAS, over two hundred fifty athletes representing

1 thirty-four North American tribes participate in the annual
2 Indigenous Soccer Cup and in the related college and
3 university preparation, soccer skills and leadership skills
4 workshops; and

5 WHEREAS, more than one thousand two hundred fifty
6 New Mexicans from four years of age to twenty-four years of
7 age, representing thirty-one communities of New Mexico,
8 participate in the Native American soccer program organized
9 by Southwest Youth Services, Incorporated; and

10 WHEREAS, the Native American soccer program and the
11 annual Indigenous Soccer Cup organized by Southwest Youth
12 Services, Incorporated, provide positive youth development
13 training in teen suicide prevention, teen pregnancy
14 prevention, cultural pride and sharing, youth resiliency,
15 health, nutrition and educational and career preparation; and

16 WHEREAS, the annual Indigenous Soccer Cup is held in
17 New Mexico, and the Third Annual Indigenous Soccer Cup will
18 be hosted by New Mexico state university, with partial
19 financial support from the Indian affairs department, the
20 office of school and adolescent health of the department of
21 health, the tourism department, the New Mexico sports
22 authority and numerous Indian pueblos in New Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, the Native American soccer program and the
24 annual Indigenous Soccer Cup organized by Southwest Youth
25 Services, Incorporated, provide leverage for state financial

1 support with monetary donations from private foundations,
2 corporations and associations to achieve strategic plan
3 outcome goals for multiple agencies; and

4 WHEREAS, the Native American soccer program and the
5 annual Indigenous Soccer Cup organized by Southwest Youth
6 Services, Incorporated, provide preventative health education
7 for Native American youth; deliver preventative health
8 services to Native Americans; form creative and durable
9 partnerships across state, tribal, federal, nonprofit,
10 philanthropic, educational and private sectors; promote youth
11 behaviors that optimize well-being and contribute to healthy
12 lifestyles; increase the confidence and well-being of youth;
13 and create a positive influence to fight against the risks
14 threatening youth;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the Indian affairs department be
17 requested to evaluate the cost-effectiveness and the health
18 outcomes of the Native American soccer program and the annual
19 Indigenous Soccer Cup organized by Southwest Youth Services,
20 Incorporated; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health and
22 Southwest Youth Services, Incorporated, provide any
23 assistance requested by the Indian affairs department; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Indian affairs
25 department report the results of its evaluation to the

1 interim Indian affairs committee by November 2009; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the Indian affairs department, the department
4 of health and Southwest Youth Services, Incorporated.

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