A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF MAKING THE SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM PART OF THE STATE MUSEUM SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum was the first children's museum in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum serves more than seventy-five thousand visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds of the visitors to the Santa Fe children's museum are New Mexico residents; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum provides educational services to families with young children; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum can reach out to younger audiences and expand the diversity of state museum audiences; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum is staffed by specially trained experts in early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum maintains strong, long-term relationships with New Mexico schools, educational institutions and family services agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum has become a cultural institution, serving the entire state of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum is well-

respected, both locally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico is committed to improving the lives of children, youth and families; and

WHEREAS, becoming part of the state museum system will ensure the preservation of the Santa Fe children's museum for generations to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the cultural affairs department be requested to study the feasibility of making the Santa Fe children's museum part of the state museum system and report to the appropriate interim legislative committee by November 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of cultural affairs, the governor and the Santa Fe children's museum.