

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE SUCCESS OF YOUTH ADVISORY BOARDS AND COUNCILS
3 AT THE CITY LEVEL AND ENCOURAGING INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITIES
4 AND COUNTIES TO CREATE YOUTH COUNCILS AT THE CITY OR TOWN
5 LEVEL AND YOUTH COMMISSIONS AT THE COUNTY LEVEL IN ORDER TO
6 FORMALLY PROVIDE COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THE YOUTH VOICE WHILE
7 INVOLVING YOUTH IN THE FUTURE OF THEIR COMMUNITIES.

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9 WHEREAS, the second session of the forty-eighth
10 legislature approved Senate Memorial 4, recognizing and
11 endorsing the Las Vegas youth commission as a model youth
12 participation project in local governance; and

13 WHEREAS, since 1992, the national league of cities has
14 incorporated the youth voice into its institute for youth,
15 education and families; and

16 WHEREAS, the mayors of Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Farmington
17 and Alamogordo support and have formally created a
18 governmental role for the youth voice in their respective
19 communities and have demonstrated the community worth of this
20 concept; and

21 WHEREAS, there is a demonstrated need for youth to
22 participate in the governance system of their communities on
23 all matters affecting young people, such as building
24 healthier communities, combating violence, conducting public
25 forums and advising on youth-appropriate substance abuse

1 programming, and to participate on behalf of community youth
2 on such issues as curfews, cruising, truancy, skateboard
3 parks, underage drinking and "youth space" programming; and

4 WHEREAS, these councils and commissions provide viable
5 youth channels for service learning and community and civic
6 engagement programs where they do not currently exist;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
8 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it encourage the creation of youth
9 councils at the incorporated municipality, pueblo and
10 reservation levels and youth commissions at the county level;
11 and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that school districts,
13 universities and community colleges be encouraged to work
14 with these youth councils and commissions to realize the
15 success of future service learning and community and civic
16 engagement programs; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
18 transmitted to each incorporated municipality, tribe, pueblo,
19 reservation, county, school district, university and community
20 college in New Mexico.

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