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HOUSE MEMORIAL 30

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

Eleanor Chavez

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS DEPARTMENT TO MONITOR THE
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN RECEIVING JOB TRAINING AND
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES PROVIDED BY FEDERAL OR STATE PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, women comprise approximately one-half of the wage
and salary employment in the United States; and

WHEREAS, close to sixty-five percent of New Mexico mothers
are in the labor force; and

WHEREAS, one-third of married families in New Mexico have
both the husband and wife working to provide support for their
families; and

WHEREAS, at least two-thirds of women with children under
six years of age are in the labor force in New Mexico, and the
fraction increases to more than three-fourths of women when
children are between ages six and seventeen; and

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1 WHEREAS, women who work full-time in New Mexico are still
2 earning an average of seventy-seven percent of their male
3 counterparts, indicating that there is still a persistent
4 gender gap in earnings between women and men; and

5 WHEREAS, New Mexico ranked thirty-ninth among all the
6 states in median earnings for full-time female workers who were
7 employed year-round; and

8 WHEREAS, workshops and employment training geared toward
9 women have been offered in the past, and that training has
10 allowed women to obtain additional job skills and career
11 development that prepare women for jobs with higher pay and
12 expanded opportunities; and

13 WHEREAS, the women's bureau of the United States
14 department of labor has been working for ninety years to
15 empower all working women to achieve economic security by
16 preparing women for high-paying jobs, ensuring fair and
17 equitable compensation, promoting workplace flexibility and
18 helping homeless female veterans to reintegrate into the work
19 force; and

20 WHEREAS, women, especially displaced homemakers, are
21 considered under the federal Workforce Investment Act to be
22 dislocated workers and, therefore, are identified as a target
23 population under that act; and

24 WHEREAS, the goals of the women's bureau of the United
25 States department of labor should correspond closely with the

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1 goals of the state workforce solutions department as it works
2 to help women advance toward an equitable and secure future in
3 the workplace;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the workforce
6 solutions department be requested to keep data on the number
7 and demographics of women receiving job training, career
8 development and other services in New Mexico from state and
9 federal programs and calculate the percentage of women served
10 by those programs; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that data compiled on women who
12 receive job training, career development and other services in
13 New Mexico be analyzed and reported to the interim legislative
14 health and human services committee and any other appropriate
15 interim committee by November of each year; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the workforce solutions
17 department coordinate closely with the women's bureau of the
18 United States department of labor to provide services to women
19 in the work force, especially to dislocated workers and other
20 target populations, to ensure that services are provided and
21 that both duplication of services and gaps in services do not
22 arise and that a systematic information exchange between the
23 workforce solutions department and the women's bureau of the
24 United States department of labor be established and
25 maintained; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of workforce solutions, the secretary of human services and the chair of the interim legislative health and human services committee.