

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND OTHER
3 APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF
4 NEW MEXICO FAMILIES THAT ENGAGE IN TWO OR MORE TYPES OF
5 SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE RELATED IMPACTS.

6
7 WHEREAS, New Mexico focuses a significant amount of its
8 state and federal funds each year addressing and responding
9 to poverty, hunger, mental health, child welfare, criminal
10 justice and other related social issues; and

11 WHEREAS, these issues have long-term fiscal and
12 humanitarian impacts on New Mexico and its residents; and

13 WHEREAS, New Mexico is in a budget shortfall; and

14 WHEREAS, despite large state, local, federal and
15 philanthropic financial investments, New Mexico consistently
16 ranks near the bottom of state rankings in the areas of child
17 maltreatment, incarceration, poverty and other related
18 measures of individual, child and family well-being; and

19 WHEREAS, research suggests that among consumers of
20 social services, there is a distinct and identifiable
21 population of individuals and families that use two or more
22 types of social services, such as the supplemental nutrition
23 assistance program and child support programs; and

24 WHEREAS, those individuals and families use a
25 significant portion of social-services funding; and

1 WHEREAS, there has never been any study that links data
2 across state agencies to determine the existence of these
3 individuals and their families in New Mexico, the costs of
4 serving them or the type, quality and efficacy of the social
5 services they receive; and

6 WHEREAS, understanding the costs and the type, quality
7 and efficacy of the social services they receive could have a
8 significant budgetary impact on the state; and

9 WHEREAS, state agencies produce and collect data that
10 could shed light on budgetary impacts; and

11 WHEREAS, individual-level data are separated by agencies
12 and not linked to illustrate the broader needs and service
13 gaps of individuals and families that use two or more types
14 of social services, or the efficacy of interventions on them;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, a larger data governance strategy with regard
17 to individuals or families that use two or more types of
18 social services may ultimately be an effective step in
19 identifying and better serving those individuals or families;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative finance committee,
22 and any other appropriate interim legislative committees, be
23 requested to conduct a study of families in New Mexico that
24 use at least two types of social services, such as income
25 support programs, child welfare programs, mental health

1 services or criminal justice services; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include
3 identification of their numbers; their geographic
4 distribution; the public costs of serving them; the outcomes
5 they experience; and ways in which New Mexico could improve
6 services to them, including the coordination of services
7 across public agencies; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative finance
9 committee and any other appropriate interim legislative
10 committees be requested to collaborate with New Mexico
11 appleaseed to conduct the study; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the human services
13 department; the children, youth and families department; the
14 corrections department; the public education department; the
15 department of health; the New Mexico mortgage finance
16 authority; and other departments and agencies be requested to
17 share data with the legislative finance committee to
18 facilitate the study; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative finance
20 committee and any other appropriate interim legislative
21 committees be requested to complete the study by October 1,
22 2018; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
25 council; the chair of the legislative finance committee; the

1 secretary of human services; the secretary of children, youth
2 and families; the secretary of corrections; the secretary of
3 public education; the secretary of health; the chair of the
4 New Mexico mortgage finance authority; and the executive
5 director of New Mexico appleseed.

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