

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO AND MEMBERS OF THE
3 2017 J. PAUL TAYLOR EARLY CHILDHOOD TASK FORCE AND REQUESTING
4 THEM TO RECONVENE THE J. PAUL TAYLOR EARLY CHILDHOOD TASK
5 FORCE IN 2018.

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7 WHEREAS, since 2013, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood
8 task force, made up of experts in child well-being, early
9 childhood development, health care, social work, education,
10 government, public benefits, law and administration as well
11 as other areas of expertise, has met at the legislature's
12 request to analyze matters relating to children's well-being
13 and make recommendations on improving children's well-being
14 to the legislature and other policymakers; and

15 WHEREAS, in recent years, the university of New Mexico
16 has volunteered to convene and provide administrative support
17 for the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force; and

18 WHEREAS, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force
19 is named for former long-time member of the New Mexico house
20 of representatives, J. Paul Taylor, of Mesilla, New Mexico,
21 who has contributed greatly to the field of children's rights
22 and well-being during his long and distinguished career in
23 public service; and

24 WHEREAS, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force
25 has done much in recent years to educate the legislature and

1 other policymakers on the importance of screening for adverse
2 childhood events, which are factors in a child's life that
3 may interfere with that child's life outcomes if they are not
4 addressed; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2017, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood
6 task force made a recommendation that the human services
7 department be requested to establish guidelines for medicaid
8 managed care organizations to screen medicaid recipients
9 using an improved health risk assessment that would include
10 family questions for the survey of well-being of young
11 children in order to identify adverse childhood events in the
12 lives of young medicaid recipients and provide access to
13 timely interventions; and

14 WHEREAS, in response to its findings, that New Mexico's
15 behavioral health system and other health care providers
16 should be equipped to examine and respond to the effects of
17 parental mental illness, substance use disorders and family
18 violence on young children, the J. Paul Taylor early
19 childhood task force also requested that the legislature
20 create a working group to address infrastructure gaps for a
21 two-generation behavioral health system; and

22 WHEREAS, the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force
23 recommended that the term "child neglect" and its antonym,
24 "adequate and appropriate parenting", have operationalized
25 definitions so that those who are seeking to promote adequate

1 and appropriate parenting may properly identify and address
2 child neglect; and

3 WHEREAS, during the 2017 interim, the J. Paul Taylor
4 early childhood task force reported these recommendations to
5 the legislative health and human services committee; and

6 WHEREAS, members of the legislative health and human
7 services committee recommended to the J. Paul Taylor early
8 childhood task force that it continue its work in
9 investigating the effects of parental mental illness,
10 substance use disorder and family violence on young children
11 and its work in making recommendations for creating a
12 two-generation behavioral health system;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the dedicated members of the
15 J. Paul Taylor early childhood task force and the university
16 of New Mexico be recognized for their work on behalf of the
17 youngest New Mexicans; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the university of New Mexico
19 and the members of the 2017 J. Paul Taylor early childhood
20 task force be requested to reconvene the J. Paul Taylor early
21 childhood task force in 2018 and continue its work in
22 investigating the effects of parental mental illness,
23 substance use disorders and family violence on young children
24 and its work in making recommendations for creating a
25 two-generation behavioral health system; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the J. Paul Taylor early
2 childhood task force be requested to continue its work in
3 identifying ways in which screening for adverse childhood
4 events can be promoted statewide so that children may be
5 provided with timely interventions; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the J. Paul Taylor early
7 childhood task force be requested to continue its efforts to
8 obtain operational definitions of "child neglect" as well as
9 "adequate and appropriate parenting"; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the J. Paul Taylor early
11 childhood task force be requested to report its findings and
12 recommendations to the legislative health and human services
13 committee by November 1, 2018; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to the president of the university of New Mexico,
16 the 2017 chair of the J. Paul Taylor early childhood task
17 force and the chair and vice chair of the legislative health
18 and human services committee. _____

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