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HOUSE MEMORIAL 85

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

INTRODUCED BY

Christine Trujillo

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE TO STUDY  
THE FEASIBILITY OF INCORPORATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS  
TRAINING IN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULA.

WHEREAS, middle school and high school curricula are  
designed to address current and pressing issues that affect the  
well-being of New Mexico's children and prepare young adults  
for healthy and successful futures; and

WHEREAS, these programs are important to help students  
build vital life skills and a strong foundation for healthy,  
crime-free lives; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking awareness prepares individuals  
to identify signs of dangerous and criminal behavior within  
their personal experiences; and

WHEREAS, there is strong evidence of a low level of

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1 understanding of the realities and dangers of human trafficking  
2 in the United States; and

3 WHEREAS, the New Mexico human trafficking task force is a  
4 federally funded collaborative task force that includes service  
5 providers, representatives from nonprofit organizations,  
6 faith-based organizations and the children, youth and families  
7 department, local, state, tribal and federal law enforcement  
8 agencies and prosecutorial agencies from around the state  
9 "whose sole purpose is to implement a collaborative approach to  
10 combating all forms of human trafficking within New Mexico, sex  
11 trafficking and labor trafficking, of foreign nationals and  
12 United States citizens of all sexes and ages"; and

13 WHEREAS, since 2015, the New Mexico human trafficking task  
14 force has been meeting quarterly to gather information and  
15 fulfill its purpose in New Mexico;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico  
18 human trafficking task force be requested to:

19 A. review ways to incorporate curricula into middle  
20 schools and high schools to educate children on human  
21 trafficking awareness across the state;

22 B. explore methods to introduce and support middle  
23 school and high school human trafficking awareness programs in  
24 New Mexico; and

25 C. seek input from nationwide experts and

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1 successful examples of such programs from outside of New  
2 Mexico; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of public  
4 education be requested to assist the New Mexico human  
5 trafficking task force to develop a strategic plan for  
6 providing statewide human trafficking awareness in middle  
7 schools and high schools to include the following:

8 A. a statement of purpose that describes the  
9 objectives the task force will accomplish by implementing a  
10 human trafficking awareness education program, the strategies  
11 by which those goals will be achieved and a time line for  
12 achieving those goals;

13 B. a plan for expanding human trafficking awareness  
14 educational opportunities to every middle school and high  
15 school in the state within five years;

16 C. a plan for the development of rigorous standards  
17 and curriculum guidelines for human trafficking awareness  
18 education, including ways to incorporate human trafficking  
19 awareness into existing standards at the middle school and high  
20 school levels;

21 D. a plan for defining high-quality professional  
22 learning for teachers to teach human trafficking awareness;

23 E. an ongoing evaluation process overseen by the  
24 public education department;

25 F. proposed methods that incorporate the principles

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1 of the strategic plan into the state's public education system  
2 as a whole; and

3 G. a plan to ensure long-term sustainability; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of the attorney  
5 general be requested to provide staff support to the New Mexico  
6 human trafficking task force and its education subcommittee;  
7 and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education  
9 department be requested to encourage and inform superintendents  
10 and middle school and high school principals of the necessity  
11 for human trafficking awareness programs; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico human  
13 trafficking task force be requested to make recommendations to  
14 incorporate curricula into middle schools and high schools to  
15 educate children on human trafficking awareness across the  
16 state; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico human  
18 trafficking task force be requested to study ways to reinforce  
19 and support middle school and high school human trafficking  
20 awareness programs; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico human  
22 trafficking task force present its findings and recommendations  
23 to the appropriate interim legislative committees by October 1,  
24 2019; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico human

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1 trafficking task force be requested to present the strategic  
2 plan for providing statewide human trafficking awareness to  
3 middle schools and high schools to the legislative education  
4 study committee by January 1, 2020; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of public  
6 education be requested to make publicly available a strategic  
7 plan for providing statewide human trafficking awareness in  
8 middle schools and high schools by February 1, 2020; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
10 transmitted to the governor, the office of the attorney  
11 general, the director of the New Mexico human trafficking task  
12 force, the secretary of public education, the secretary of  
13 human services, the secretary of public safety, the chair of  
14 the legislative health and human services committee and the  
15 chair of the legislative education study committee.