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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 6
42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
1996

INTRODUCED BY
E. SHIRLEY BACA

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON CONCERNS OF THE
HANDICAPPED TO STUDY ISSUES RELATED TO MULTIPLE CHEMICAL
SENSITIVITIES.

WHEREAS, people of all ages in New Mexico and worldwide
have become chemically sensitized and suffer adverse health
reactions to many building products, smoke, pesticides,
fragrances and other chemicals; and

WHEREAS, the condition known variously as multiple chemical
sensitivities, environmental illness or ecological illness has
been recognized by state and federal agencies, including the
United States department of housing and urban development, the
social security administration, the environmental protection
agency and the national academy of sciences; and

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1 WHEREAS, the causes of multiple chemical sensitivities are
2 not fully understood, and there is controversy over this
3 illness; and

4 WHEREAS, physicians in the Santa Fe-Los Alamos area have
5 diagnosed more than one thousand five hundred patients with
6 multiple chemical sensitivities, and the number of cases is
7 increasing; and

8 WHEREAS, the health of the general population is at risk
9 from high-level and chronic low-level chemical exposures that
10 can lead to illnesses that may be preventable through reductions
11 or avoidance of chemicals in air, water and food and in both
12 indoor and outdoor environments; and

13 WHEREAS, people with multiple chemical sensitivities are
14 often denied adequate housing, schooling, employment, health
15 care, insurance, disability benefits, legal and counseling
16 services and access to public places because of chemical
17 barriers, ignorance or subtle or overt forms of discrimination;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, educational programs and incentives could help
20 reduce hazards and exposures in the workplace, leading to
21 improved access to employment, increased productivity and
22 reduction of injuries; and

23 WHEREAS, housing that is designed to be affordable and
24 accessible to people with multiple chemical sensitivities would
25 help stabilize or improve the health of those people, many of

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1 whom are forced to live outdoors or in substandard conditions;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, information about and recognition of multiple
4 chemical sensitivities could improve opportunities for people
5 with this condition to receive medical care, public benefits and
6 services, to participate in and contribute to social, economic
7 and civic affairs and to be protected from injury and have a
8 better quality of life;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor's committee on concerns of
11 the handicapped study, with the cooperation of the department of
12 health, the human services department and other appropriate
13 state agencies, the extent of problems faced by individuals with
14 multiple chemical sensitivities or environmental illness; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include issues of
16 health care, discrimination, public education, employment,
17 housing, insurance, public benefits and services, access to
18 government, legal services and environmental regulation; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study be reported to the
20 interim legislative health and human services committee at its
21 October 1996 meeting; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the governor's committee on concerns of the
24 handicapped, the department of health and the human services
25 department.

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION, 1996

January 25, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 6

has had it under consideration and finds same to be
GERMANE in accordance with constitutional provisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Perea Casey,

Chairperson

Adopted _____

Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

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4 The roll call vote was 9 For 1 Against

5 Yes: 9

6 No: Nicely

7 Excused: Luna, Pederson, Rodella, R. G. Sanchez, J. G. Taylor

8 Absent: None

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION, 1996

February 6, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 6

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Gallegos, Chairman

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 5 For 0 Against

Yes: 5

Excused: Williams

Absent: None

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

**FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996**

February 7, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

**Your APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred**

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 6

**has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS.**

Respectfully submitted,

Max Coll, Chairman

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FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

Yes: 10

Excused: Bird, Casey, Gentry, Light, Martinez, Taylor, Watchman,
Saavedra

Absent: None

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