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SENATE MEMORIAL 28

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Ramsay L. Gorham

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A  
TASK FORCE TO ATTEMPT TO ENSURE EQUITY IN THE APPLICATION OF  
INELIGIBILITY PERIODS IMPOSED FOLLOWING THE TRANSFER OF A  
STUDENT.

WHEREAS, thousands of New Mexico families have taken the  
opportunity to improve the quality of their education,  
instruction and services they receive by transferring schools  
under the state law allowing open enrollment; and

WHEREAS, some students possess athletic talents that  
enrich their high school experiences and, in some cases,  
contribute tangibly to their ability to attend and succeed in  
higher education; and

WHEREAS, some athletic coaches unscrupulously recruit  
student-athletes in order to selfishly improve their own

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1 stature among their colleagues and the public; and

2 WHEREAS, because of this unethical action, the New Mexico  
3 activities association has taken it upon itself to impose  
4 ineligibility periods on student-athletes who choose to  
5 transfer schools; and

6 WHEREAS, these restrictions have been applied unevenly  
7 among schools and school districts, denying student-athletes  
8 the same opportunities to succeed academically and  
9 athletically;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
11 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be  
12 requested to appoint a task force consisting of legislators  
13 and representatives of school district superintendents,  
14 principals, coaches, the New Mexico activities association,  
15 parents and any other interested parties as may be appropriate  
16 to work toward an acceptable method of ensuring equity in the  
17 application of ineligibility periods following a student's  
18 transfer; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that whatever solution is proposed  
20 put the student-athlete's needs and concerns ahead of all  
21 others.