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SENATE MEMORIAL 6

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - 2ND SECOND SESSION, 2000

INTRODUCED BY

Dede Feldman

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT TO SURVEY EXISTING AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, there is mounting evidence of the detrimental consequences of children and youth being unsupervised and without constructive activities in the after-school hours, including increased likelihood of truancy, stress and engaging in destructive and risky behaviors, such as criminal activity, alcohol or drug use and sexual activity; and

WHEREAS, children attending quality after-school programs have been found to have better grades, peer relations, emotional adjustment and conduct in school compared to those who are without adult supervision; and

WHEREAS, surveys indicate that the great majority of parents are concerned that their children be in a safe and positive environment in the after-school hours; and

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1 WHEREAS, successful after-school programs have a
2 beneficial effect on children and youth, their families and
3 the community; and

4 WHEREAS, various groups have made presentations to
5 interim legislative committees on the need in New Mexico for
6 after-school programs; and

7 WHEREAS, there is no readily accessible information on
8 the number of children and youth in New Mexico who currently
9 have access to after-school programs or the extent of the
10 unmet demand for additional programs;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public
13 education and the children, youth and families department
14 survey the current availability, types and cost to students
15 of after-school programs for school-age children in New
16 Mexico, including programs offered by public or private
17 schools, local governments or non-profit organizations; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of
19 public education and the children, youth and families
20 department present the findings of the survey to the
21 legislative health and human services committee and the
22 legislative education study committee at their October 2000
23 meetings; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 sent to the superintendent of public instruction, the
secretary of children, youth and families, the legislative
education study committee and the legislative health and

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human services committee.

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