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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 16

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Helen Garcia

FOR THE EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO COLLABORATE IN DEVELOPING APPROPRIATE TRAINING AND MATERIALS TO ASSIST LICENSED DAYCARE PROVIDERS IN PROVIDING EARLY LITERACY AND READING READINESS SKILLS IN THE CHILD DAYCARE ENVIRONMENT.

WHEREAS, the latest research relating to early childhood learning has shown that literacy-rich environments for children before they enter kindergarten or the first grade can significantly enhance children's success in school and life; and

WHEREAS, child-care providers who provide literacy-rich environments to the children in their care can become a

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1 significant part of enhancing children's success in school and
2 later life; and

3 WHEREAS, licensed daycare providers can help the children
4 in their care acquire early literacy or reading readiness
5 skills by: reading to them; providing appropriate reading
6 materials to them; engaging them in language building games;
7 promoting literacy-related play activities; encouraging them to
8 experiment with writing; providing opportunities for them to
9 draw, color and paint; and taking them to the library;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health, the office
12 of child development of the children, youth and families
13 department and the state department of public education be
14 requested to collaborate in developing appropriate training and
15 materials to assist licensed daycare providers in providing
16 early literacy and reading readiness skills in the child
17 daycare environment; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health, the
19 office of child development of the children, youth and families
20 department and the state department of public education report
21 to the legislative education study committee and the
22 legislative finance committee during the 2001 legislative
23 interim about funding requirements necessary to train and
24 prepare materials for licensed daycare providers in the
25 providing of literacy-rich environments to the children in

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1 their care; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the chairmen of the legislative education study
4 committee and the legislative finance committee, the
5 superintendent of public instruction, the secretary of
6 children, youth and families and the secretary of health.

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