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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 13
45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY
Bernadette M Sanchez

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING A STUDY OF CHILD-CARE COMPENSATION RATES BY A TASK
FORCE LED BY THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, research shows that quality early care and
education of young children result in improved educational
outcomes and lives and reduced need for special education and
delinquency programs; and

WHEREAS, continuity of caregivers and educators is key to
providing quality educational experiences for young children;
and

WHEREAS, compensation is a central element in the decision
of early childhood education and family support professionals
to stay in or leave the field; and

WHEREAS, the current low compensation for early childhood

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1 education and family support professionals is the major reason
2 for the high turnover rate in this field; and

3 WHEREAS, successful models for increasing compensation and
4 staff retention exist in other states;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the children, youth and families
7 department convene a task force to study the means to increase
8 compensation for early childhood education and family support
9 professionals; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department include in the
11 task force representatives of early childhood education and
12 family support professionals, advocates of these professions,
13 representatives of head start programs, elementary and higher
14 education and the department of health; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force review
16 successful models of compensation from other states and develop
17 a plan to increase compensation for those professionals so that
18 their salaries are commensurate with those with equivalent
19 educational requirements in other fields; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its
21 findings and recommendations to the interim legislative health
22 and human services committee and the legislative education
23 study committee at their October 2001 meetings; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 sent to the secretary of children, youth and families, the

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1 secretary of health, the director of the legislative education
2 study committee and the interim legislative health and human
3 services committee.

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