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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 52  
**46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004**

INTRODUCED BY  
W. Ken Martinez

FOR THE CORRECTIONS OVERSIGHT AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL  
REQUESTING THE CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT, THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND  
FAMILIES DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ASSESS  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT SERVICES AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
TREATMENT SERVICES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO ARE INCARCERATED.

WHEREAS, recidivism rates for female inmates are  
substantially higher than recidivism rates for male inmates,  
indicating that treatment services for women in the prison  
system and in the community are inadequate; and

WHEREAS, women and girls use mental health services  
thirty-three percent more often than men; and

WHEREAS, gender-specific treatment services have a  
beneficial, therapeutic effect on women and help reduce  
recidivism rates for female inmates; and

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1           WHEREAS, there is not a mental health unit for women in  
2 the correctional system; and

3           WHEREAS, women who are incarcerated at the women's  
4 correctional facility in Grants receive minimal behavioral  
5 health treatment services and substance abuse treatment  
6 services; and

7           WHEREAS, girls who are incarcerated at the youth  
8 diagnostic and development center in Albuquerque do not have  
9 access to a behavioral health treatment facility or a substance  
10 abuse treatment facility; and

11           WHEREAS, a report completed pursuant to House Joint  
12 Memorial 26 of the first session of the forty-sixth legislature  
13 recommended housing girls in a separate lodge at the Sequoyah  
14 treatment facility; and

15           WHEREAS, the lack of behavioral health treatment services  
16 and substance abuse treatment services for women and girls who  
17 are incarcerated is one of the most obvious examples of the  
18 lack of gender equity in the provision of services to females;

19           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the corrections department, the  
21 children, youth and families department and the department of  
22 health be requested to assess behavioral treatment services and  
23 substance abuse treatment services for women and girls who are  
24 incarcerated; and

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the corrections department,

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1 the children, youth and families department and the department  
2 of health be requested to implement the recommendations set  
3 forth in the report completed pursuant to House Joint Memorial  
4 26 of the first session of the forty-sixth legislature; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the corrections department,  
6 the children, youth and families department and the department  
7 of health be requested to report their findings, including  
8 recommendations for legislation, to the interim corrections  
9 oversight and justice committee no later than November 1, 2004;  
10 and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
12 transmitted to the secretary of corrections, the secretary of  
13 children, youth and families and the secretary of health.