

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 35

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

INTRODUCED BY

Ben Lujan

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE TASK FORCE TO END HUNGER CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY IN NEW MEXICO AND WORK WITH STATE AGENCIES AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO ENCOURAGE AND COORDINATE THE TANGIBLE STEPS IDENTIFIED IN ITS 2004 REPORT, "TOGETHER WE CAN: ENDING HUNGER IN NEW MEXICO".

WHEREAS, the New Mexico task force to end hunger is composed of a group of interested and concerned members of the general public and state agency officials and has met regularly for the last year in response to House Joint Memorial 12, which was approved during the first session of the forty-seventh legislature; and

WHEREAS, the task force, created after the governor held the hunger summit on October 16-17, 2003, took on the responsibility to address with tangible steps and concrete

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1 proposals the high rates of hunger and food insecurity and
2 related issues of food access, distribution and sufficiency
3 within New Mexico and to engage state agencies in a coordinated
4 and collaborative movement toward reducing and eliminating
5 hunger and food insecurity in New Mexico; and

6 WHEREAS, the task force, pursuant to House Joint Memorial
7 12, presented a report entitled "Together We Can: Ending
8 Hunger in New Mexico" to the interim legislative health and
9 human services committee; and

10 WHEREAS, the report drew upon the knowledge and experience
11 of participants of the task force after the 2003 summit at
12 meetings on April 14 and September 17, 2004, and the report was
13 guided and drafted by a steering committee, which met on a
14 monthly basis throughout the year; and

15 WHEREAS, "Together We Can: Ending Hunger in New Mexico"
16 outlines six goals, each with a series of objectives and
17 tangible and concrete recommendations that cover an array of
18 food, nutritional and agricultural issues, and calls for action
19 that will involve legislative consideration of specific
20 enactments and appropriations and will require more definite
21 state agency administrative coordination and changes in
22 procedures;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
24 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico task force to end
25 hunger, guided by its steering committee, be requested to

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1 continue its work and efforts on hunger and food insecurity
2 issues that afflict New Mexico; and that the steering committee
3 of the task force convene the full task force membership at an
4 appropriate time or times in the course of the coming year for
5 a review of its efforts; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico task force to
7 end hunger draw upon the resources of relevant state agencies
8 and directly involve and connect with the designated staff of
9 state agencies that are concerned with food and nutrition
10 programs, agricultural production and rural transportation,
11 including the aging and long-term services department; the New
12 Mexico department of agriculture; the children, youth and
13 families department; the public education department; the
14 department of health; the human services department; and the
15 department of transportation; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these departments commit
17 reasonable resources to the implementation of the
18 recommendations of the task force report and work with the
19 steering committee of the task force; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico task force to
21 end hunger, both its participants and steering committee,
22 involve, use and draw upon the resources of private persons,
23 groups and nonprofit organizations that participated in the
24 governor's hunger summit or that have otherwise shown concern
25 about hunger and food insecurity in New Mexico; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the steering committee of the
2 task force report to the interim legislative health and human
3 services committee regarding the status of the implementation
4 of the report's recommendations by November 1, 2006; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the director of the New Mexico department of
7 agriculture and the secretaries of aging and long-term
8 services; children, youth and families; public education;
9 health; human services; and transportation.