

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP
3 PREVENTION EDUCATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO TEACH THE
4 DANGERS OF ANABOLIC STEROID ABUSE.

5
6 WHEREAS, anabolic steroids are artificial substances
7 related to male sex hormones that athletes often use to build
8 muscle and improve athletic performance; and

9 WHEREAS, using anabolic steroids in this way is neither
10 legal nor safe, and their use by athletes can cause heart
11 problems, including cardiac arrest, liver disease and
12 aggressive behavior; and

13 WHEREAS, the national institute on drug abuse reports
14 that, in adolescents, anabolic steroid abuse can halt bone
15 growth and has been associated with damage to the heart,
16 kidneys and liver, as well as problems with sexual
17 development; and

18 WHEREAS, there is a great deal of anecdotal evidence
19 linking anabolic steroid use with suicide and extremely
20 unpredictable and aggressive behavior; and

21 WHEREAS, despite all of the warnings issued by the
22 health care community, adolescent athletes are under
23 increasing pressure to use anabolic steroids in order to
24 obtain a competitive edge when seeking sports scholarships
25 and career opportunities; and

1 WHEREAS, in light of the severity of the threat that
2 anabolic steroids pose to adolescents, the states of Florida,
3 New Jersey and Texas have passed legislation to implement
4 anabolic steroid testing programs for high school students;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the state of Oregon has passed legislation to
7 provide for teaching students about the dangers of anabolic
8 steroid abuse;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the public education department be
11 requested to develop, at the earliest opportunity, an
12 educational anabolic steroid abuse prevention program aimed
13 at high school students to teach the dangers of anabolic
14 steroid abuse; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the secretary of public education. _____

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