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SENATE MEMORIAL 65

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY
Pete Campos

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT AND THE
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY
HOW TO INCREASE COMMUNICATION, COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION
AMONG EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICE PROVIDERS.

WHEREAS, in the past, New Mexico pre-kindergarten state
funds and programs have displaced and supplanted federal
funding, resulting in the reversion of substantial funding back
to the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the reversion of these funds resulted in the
under-enrollment at various New Mexico head start and child
care programs around the state; and

WHEREAS, under-enrollment in New Mexico head start
programs may result in potential, permanent reversion of funds
to the federal government; and

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1 WHEREAS, in the past, limited state dollars have been
2 unevenly allocated, with some communities with early childhood
3 services for four-year-olds receiving disproportionately more
4 funding than other communities; and

5 WHEREAS, the disproportionate funding has led to financial
6 stress and closure of some private and nonprofit programs; and

7 WHEREAS, when child care programs close, some services,
8 such as infant and toddler services, are lost; and

9 WHEREAS, increased communication, collaboration and
10 coordination among the children, youth and families department,
11 the public education department and early childhood service
12 providers would help working parents or parents attending
13 school to obtain better information on access to the variety of
14 services available to families with children from birth through
15 five years old; and

16 WHEREAS, such collaboration and coordination has the
17 potential to maximize state resources and to prevent
18 duplication of efforts; and

19 WHEREAS, combined funding sources and services could
20 strengthen and expand much-needed services for families;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
22 OF NEW MEXICO that the children, youth and families department
23 and the public education department be requested to convene a
24 task force to study how to increase communication, coordination
25 and collaboration among early childhood service providers; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of
2 representatives from the children, youth and families
3 department's early childhood services division, the public
4 education department's literacy and early childhood education
5 bureau, the Indian affairs department, the New Mexico head
6 start association, the New Mexico tribal head start
7 association, the New Mexico association for the education of
8 young children, the New Mexico child care and education
9 association, the New Mexico early learning advisory council and
10 family child care homes; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its
12 findings and recommendations to the legislative health and
13 human services committee, the legislative education study
14 committee and the legislative finance committee by October 1,
15 2016; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
17 transmitted to the secretary of children, youth and families;
18 the secretary of public education; the secretary of Indian
19 affairs; the board chair of the New Mexico head start
20 association; the board chair of the New Mexico tribal head
21 start association; the executive director of the New Mexico
22 association for the education of young children; the president
23 of the New Mexico child care and education association; and
24 representatives of family child care homes.