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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 38

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

INTRODUCED BY

ELIZABETH T. STEFANICS

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO ALLOW USE OF BLOCK  
GRANT MONEY FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR RELOCATION  
ASSISTANCE AND TELEPHONE SERVICE FOR PARENTS WHO RECEIVE  
ASSISTANCE FROM THE AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN  
PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the republican contract with America includes  
conversion of specific categories of assistance for the  
disadvantaged to block grants to the states; and

WHEREAS, the intent of block grants is, among other things,  
to remove restrictions on the use of money and to provide the  
state more flexibility; and

WHEREAS, both current welfare programs and those proposed  
by the contract with America envision more able-bodied  
individuals actively seeking, gaining and retaining employment;

Underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

Underscored material = new  
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1 and

2 WHEREAS, unemployed individuals often do not have the means  
3 to afford telephone service and therefore cannot easily seek or  
4 be available for work or employment-related interviews; and

5 WHEREAS, relocation and telephone expenses are difficult  
6 for indigent families to pay, but are frequently necessary and  
7 are not allowed by current federal restrictions;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the human services department be  
10 requested to allow money from block grants to be used for  
11 relocation assistance and telephone services for parents who  
12 receive assistance from the aid to families with dependent  
13 children program; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
15 transmitted to the secretary of human services.

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