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HOUSE BILL 371

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

DANICE PICRAUX

AN ACT

**RELATING TO PUBLIC WELFARE; PROVIDING FOR AN INMATE WORK FOOD
DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM AND PILOT PROJECT; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. INMATE WORK FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM - PILOT
PROJECT. --**

**A. The corrections department shall establish and
administer an inmate work food distribution program. The
program shall provide for and administer a food harvesting and
distribution program of agricultural crops that might
otherwise go to waste. The agricultural crops shall be
distributed to sick or indigent persons. The corrections
department shall cooperate with other departments, public
bodies and private landowners as it deems appropriate to**

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1 develop and implement policies and procedures and shall
2 provide staffing and administrative support for the program,
3 including its harvesting and distribution systems.

4 B. As part of the inmate work food distribution
5 program, the corrections department shall conduct a harvesting
6 and distribution pilot project using minimum-security inmates
7 of state correctional facilities. The corrections department
8 shall cooperate with the human services department to
9 establish and implement the food distribution system,
10 policies, procedures or other features of the pilot project.

11 C. The pilot project shall be implemented on state
12 or private lands, with the private landowner's consent, that
13 are in proximity to the correctional facilities housing the
14 inmates. Agricultural products harvested through the pilot
15 project shall be distributed only to sick or indigent persons.

16 D. The corrections department shall report and
17 make recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative
18 committee not later than November 1, 1998 on whether to
19 continue, discontinue or modify the pilot project.

20 E. As used in this section, "agricultural crop"
21 means any owner-donated food or nonfood crop or product grown
22 on land, including firewood.

23 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. -- Eighty-three thousand dollars
24 (\$83,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
25 corrections department for expenditure in fiscal years 1998

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1 and 1999 for the purpose of establishing and operating a food
2 harvesting and distribution pilot project. Any unexpended
3 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1999
4 shall revert to the general fund.

5 Section 3. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
6 peace, health and safety that this act take effect
7 immediately.

1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
2 SECOND SESSION, 1998
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6 February 5, 1998
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8 Mr. Speaker:
9

10 Your CONSUMER AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to
11 whom has been referred
12

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15 has had it under consideration and reports same with
16 recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
17 APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

18 Respectfully submitted,
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22 _____
23 Gary K. King, Chairman
24
25

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1998

HCPAC/HB 371

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 7 For 0 Against

Yes: 7

Excused: Heaton, Pederson, Sandel

Absent: None

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