SENATE BILL 236

43rd Legislature - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - second session, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

DEDE FELDMAN

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

- B. As part of the inmate work food distribution program, the corrections department shall conduct a harvesting and distribution pilot project using minimum-security inmates of state correctional facilities. The corrections department shall cooperate with the human services department to establish and implement the food distribution system, policies, procedures or other features of the pilot project.
- C. The pilot project shall be implemented on state or private lands, with the private landowner's consent, that are in proximity to the correctional facilities housing the inmates. Agricultural products harvested through the pilot project shall be distributed only to sick or indigent persons.
- D. The corrections department shall report and make recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative committee not later than November 1, 1998 on whether to continue, discontinue or modify the pilot project.
- E. As used in this section, "agricultural crop" means any owner-donated food or nonfood crop or product grown on land, including firewood.
- Section 2. APPROPRIATION. -- Eighty-three thousand dollars (\$83,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the corrections department for expenditure in fiscal years 1998

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

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

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE **SECOND SESSION, 1998 February 4, 1998** Mr. President: Your **COMMITTEES' COMMITTEE**, to whom has been referred **SENATE BILL 236** has had it under consideration and finds same to be GERMANE, in accordance with constitutional provisions, and thence referred to the JUDICIARY COMMITTEE. Respectfully submitted, Manny M Aragon, Chairman

<u>Underscored material = new</u>
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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE SECOND SESSION, 1998 **February 9, 1998** Mr. President: Your JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred SENATE BIL 236 has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the FINANCE COMMITTEE. Respectfully submitted, Cisco McSorley, Vice-Chairman

(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk) The roll call vote was $\underline{6}$ For $\underline{0}$ Against Yes: No: 0 Excused: Payne, Tsosie Absent: None S0236JU1

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