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SENATE BILL 172

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

John Arthur Smith

AN ACT

RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS; CONFERRING JURISDICTION UPON
PROBATE COURTS TO CONDUCT DISPUTE RESOLUTION HEARINGS IN
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES.

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

Section 1. PROBATE COURTS--ADDITIONAL JURISDICTION IN
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES--TRAINING. --

A. If approved by the administrative office of the
courts pursuant to Subsection B of this section, a probate
court shall have concurrent jurisdiction to conduct dispute
resolution hearings in domestic relations cases.

B. The director of the administrative office of
the courts may approve a probate court to exercise the
jurisdiction conferred in Subsection A of this section if the
judicial district for the county in which the probate court is

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1 located has certified that the probate judge is qualified, by
2 training or experience, to conduct the dispute resolution
3 hearings.

4 C. Funds available to the judicial district for
5 domestic relations mediation or dispute resolution purposes
6 may be used by the judicial district to train probate judges
7 and pay probate court costs pursuant to this section.

8 D. The supreme court shall enact rules necessary
9 for the implementation of this section.