1	SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 51					
2	44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999					
3	INTRODUCED BY					
4	Patrick H. Lyons					
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10	A JOINT MEMORIAL					
11	REQUESTING THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT					
12	TO FAMILIES FOR WHICH IT HAS RECEIVED PAYMENT; REQUESTING A					
13	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL; REQUESTING THE					
14	NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT AN INTERIM COMMITTEE					
15	TO REVISE LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE HUMAN SERVICES					
16	DEPARTMENT.					
17						
18	WHEREAS, the human services department, which collects					
19	child support from absent parents is not paying the child					
20	support it has collected to the families to which it is due;					
21	and					
22	WHEREAS, this devastates children who live in homes where					
23	much of the child support comes from absent parents; and					
24	WHEREAS, payments that have been made to the human					
25	services department are distributed late by as much as three					
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months and frequently are only a portion of the full amount
owed; and

WHEREAS, the problem is statewide and is hitting the population that is least able to defend against this adversity, and that the system is supposed to be serving; and

WHEREAS, one man who had paid his child support received a notice from the human services department that he was ninety days delinquent and that the human services department would garnish his pay; and

WHEREAS, that action also threatened his job; and WHEREAS, victims of such incompetence have retained an attorney for the purpose of filing a class action lawsuit against the state; and

WHEREAS, the state is potentially at risk; and WHEREAS, efforts to get the human services department to correct the problem have been met with an absolute disregard for urgency and a lack of willingness to correct the abuse;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the human services department be requested to make child support payments received from absent parents to the dependent family members immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the attorney general be requested to initiate a criminal investigation of the human services department and personnel within that department of potential criminal conduct; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative council appoint an interim committee to draft legislation to revise the statutes for the human services department and submit the legislation to the second session of the forty-fourth legislature; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of human services, the attorney general and the New Mexico legislative council. - 3 -. 127757. 1

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	1	FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE			
	2	FIRST SESSION, 1999			
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	5	March 6, 1999			
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	7	Mr. President:			
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	9	Your RULES COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred			
	10				
	11	SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 51			
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	13	has had it under consideration and reports same with			
	14 15	recommendation that it DO PASS.			
	15 16				
te	10	Respectfully submitted,			
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<u>sco</u>	23	Gloria Howes, Co-Chair			
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Adopted		Not	
Adopted			
	(Chief Clerk)		(Chief Clerk)
	Date		
	l call vote was <u>5</u>	For <u>0</u> Against	
	5		
No:	0		
	: Altamirano, Campos	, Romero	
Absent:	None		
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