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HOUSE MEMORIAL 82

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

INTRODUCED BY

Danice Picraux

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DISABILITY TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF THE UNMET NEEDS OF ADULTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS.

WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico health sciences center hosts the center for development and disability, a university center for excellence in developmental disabilities education, research and service; and

WHEREAS, the center for development and disability is one of sixty-seven such centers in the United States, and these centers are authorized by the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of these centers is to build capacity in states and communities to respond to the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities, including autism

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1 spectrum disorders; and

2 WHEREAS, the center for development and disability in New  
3 Mexico offers numerous programs and projects, including  
4 specific programs for children with autism, funded by a variety  
5 of federal and state agencies and private partners; and

6 WHEREAS, the need for adult-focused autism services and  
7 programs in New Mexico is growing exponentially; and

8 WHEREAS, the autism programs and all other programs at the  
9 center are intended to foster and support innovative,  
10 collaborative and interdisciplinary education, distance  
11 learning, applied research and analysis, dissemination of  
12 information, direct client services and individual and family  
13 support; and

14 WHEREAS, the mission of the center is to support "full  
15 inclusion of people with disabilities and their families in  
16 their communities by engaging individuals in making life  
17 choices"; and

18 WHEREAS, this mission is to be accomplished through  
19 partnerships with communities to build resources and improve  
20 systems of care; and

21 WHEREAS, the mission, expertise and accomplishments of the  
22 center make it the ideal setting to look at the state's system  
23 of care for adults with autism;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
25 REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the university

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1 of New Mexico center for development and disability be  
2 requested to conduct an analysis of the unmet needs of adults  
3 with autism spectrum disorders; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the center, using the findings  
5 of the analysis, make recommendations for appropriate medical,  
6 educational, vocational and treatment services and for enhanced  
7 individual, family and provider training to promote independent  
8 living for these individuals; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the center coordinate the  
10 analysis with the department of health, the public education  
11 department, the higher education department, the developmental  
12 disabilities planning council and others that partner in  
13 serving the educational and services needs of individuals with  
14 autism spectrum disorders and their families; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report of the findings and  
16 recommendations of this analysis be presented to the  
17 legislative health and human services committee no later than  
18 October 2011; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
20 transmitted to the secretaries of public education, higher  
21 education and health, the director of the developmental  
22 disabilities planning council and the director of the  
23 university of New Mexico center for development and disability.