AN ACT

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES; ENACTING THE CHILD CARE

ASSISTANCE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT; REQUIRING THE CHILDREN, YOUTH

AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH THE CHILD CARE

ASSISTANCE ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR RULEMAKING.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of the Children's Code is enacted to read:

"SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the "Child Care Assistance Accountability Act"."

SECTION 2. A new section of the Children's Code is enacted to read:

"DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Child Care Assistance Accountability Act:

- A. "child care assistance" means financial assistance administered by the department that provides child care for children zero to five as the primary service delivery strategy through a contract with child care providers on behalf of eligible families;
- B. "child care assistance program" means the statewide infrastructure established by the department of all eligible families and the child care programs receiving child care assistance on their behalf;
- C. "culturally and linguistically appropriate" means taking into consideration the culture, customs and language of an eligible family; and