

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 13

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

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DISABILITY TO CONDUCT A PROGRAMMATIC, LEGAL AND FISCAL ANALYSIS OF CURRENT PROGRAMS SERVING INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCED TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR THESE INDIVIDUALS.

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 university of New Mexico center 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

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1 WHEREAS, the stated purpose of these centers is to build
2 capacity in states and communities to respond to the needs of
3 individuals with developmental disabilities; and

4 WHEREAS, the center for development and disability in New
5 Mexico offers numerous programs and projects funded by a
6 variety of federal and state agencies and private partners; and

7 WHEREAS, the programs and projects of the center are
8 intended to foster and support innovative, collaborative and
9 interdisciplinary education, distance learning, applied
10 research and analysis, dissemination of information and direct
11 client services; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2009, the center provided clinical services
13 and training and technical assistance in virtually all of New
14 Mexico's thirty-three counties; and

15 WHEREAS, the 2009 annual report provides information about
16 these programs, services and projects, including sources of
17 funding but excluding amounts of funding; and

18 WHEREAS, the complexity of the organization and financing
19 of the center suggests that a comprehensive review of the
20 effectiveness of the center, including a review of all
21 programs, legal requirements and funding streams, is needed to
22 ensure that the mission of the center is being met; and

23 WHEREAS, the mission of the center is to support "full
24 inclusion of people with disabilities and their families in
25 their communities by engaging individuals in making life

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1 choices"; and

2 WHEREAS, this mission is to be accomplished through
3 partnerships with communities to build resources and improve
4 systems of care; and

5 WHEREAS, the importance of evaluating the effectiveness of
6 the many and varied programs and projects in light of the
7 mission, and of determining whether these programs and projects
8 are actually touching the lives of the individuals and families
9 that the center intends to serve, cannot be overstated;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the university of New Mexico center
12 for development and disability be requested to conduct a
13 programmatic, legal and fiscal analysis of current programs
14 serving individuals living with developmental disabilities; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the center, using the findings
16 of the analysis, make recommendations for enhanced training and
17 educational opportunities to promote independent living for
18 individuals living with developmental disabilities; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the center coordinate the
20 analysis with the department of health, the public education
21 department, the higher education department, the developmental
22 disabilities planning council and others that partner in
23 serving the educational and services needs of individuals and
24 families living with developmental disabilities; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report of the findings and

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1 recommendations of this analysis be presented to the
2 legislative health and human services committee no later than
3 October 2011; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the secretaries of public education, higher
6 education and health, the director of the developmental
7 disabilities planning council and the director of the
8 university of New Mexico center for development and disability.

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