

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING BROAD-BASED ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATION IN A
3 TASK FORCE TO CREATE A STRATEGY TO REDUCE ADOLESCENT BIRTH
4 RATES, IMPROVE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES, CREATE A
5 CONTINUUM OF PREVENTIVE SERVICES AND SUPPORT ADOLESCENT
6 PARENTS.

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8 WHEREAS, New Mexico continues to have a soaring teen
9 birth rate; and

10 WHEREAS, the high birth rate for adolescents is of
11 geographical and economic concern to many areas of the state
12 and affects many areas of government; and

13 WHEREAS, education about parenting can help raise
14 adolescent awareness about the lifetime implications of
15 creating a new life; and

16 WHEREAS, health education and information can help a
17 pregnant mother have a healthy infant; and

18 WHEREAS, community support for young parents is vital to
19 help young parents raise a healthy child who meets
20 developmental and educational goals in a timely fashion and
21 to help the parents hold down jobs that pay a liveable wage;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, the problems and consequences of adolescent
24 pregnancy cannot be addressed entirely within a single
25 governmental system or improved without a broad coalition of

1 points of view and contributions;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health be
4 requested to convene a working group of representatives from
5 the public education department, the children, youth and
6 families department, the workforce solutions department, the
7 human services department, the New Mexico forum for youth,
8 the children's cabinet, the New Mexico teen pregnancy
9 coalition and county and local governments to develop a
10 single, well-planned, comprehensive strategy for reducing
11 adolescent births; to address the issue of unintended
12 pregnancy; to improve reproductive health outcomes for youth;
13 and to develop a continuum of prevention services to prevent
14 adolescent pregnancy and provide support to adolescent
15 parents; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
17 transmitted to the secretary of health, the secretary of
18 children, youth and families, the secretary of public
19 education, the secretary of workforce solutions and the
20 secretary of human services; the directors or executive
21 directors of the New Mexico forum for youth, the children's
22 cabinet and the New Mexico teen pregnancy coalition; the
23 chairs of county commissions and boards of commissioners; and
24 the mayors of cities statewide.