

The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

50th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2012

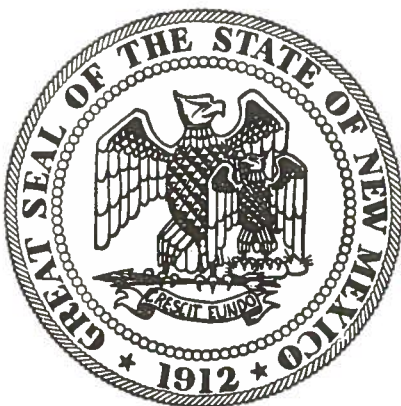
CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 25

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE RICK MIERA

REPRESENTATIVE MIMI STEWART
REPRESENTATIVE MARY HELEN GARCÍA
REPRESENTATIVE MIGUEL P. GARCÍA



1 A MEMORIAL

2 ENCOURAGING SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ENGAGE PARENTS AND COMMUNITY
3 MEMBERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL BULLYING PREVENTION
4 PROGRAMS.

5
6 WHEREAS, during the first session of the fiftieth
7 legislature, the legislature passed, and Governor Susana
8 Martinez subsequently signed into law, Senate Bill 78, which
9 requires each local school board to implement a bullying
10 prevention program by August 2012; and

11 WHEREAS, according to the 2007 New Mexico youth risk and
12 resiliency survey, nine percent of New Mexico high school
13 students reported skipping school within the past thirty days
14 because they felt unsafe at school or while traveling to or
15 from school; and

16 WHEREAS, American medical association research findings
17 indicate that bullying has a negative social and public health
18 impact on children and youths; and

19 WHEREAS, a bully may exhibit anti-social or delinquent
20 behaviors, such as vandalism, shoplifting, truancy and
21 frequent drug use; and

22 WHEREAS, bullies may continue these anti-social or
23 delinquent behaviors into young adulthood; and

24 WHEREAS, a bully is more apt to drink liquor, smoke
25 tobacco and perform poorly in school; and

1 WHEREAS, one in four boys who has been a bully has a
2 criminal record by age thirty; and

3 WHEREAS, a bullied person may experience short-term
4 problems, such as depression and thoughts of suicide, anxiety,
5 loneliness and difficulties with school work, and long-term
6 problems, including low self-esteem and depression; and

7 WHEREAS, in a United States department of education
8 study, younger students were found to be more likely than
9 older students to report being bullied; and

10 WHEREAS, in a United States department of education
11 study, fourteen percent of students reported being victims of
12 bullying; and

13 WHEREAS, in a United States department of education
14 study, of those students who reported lower grades, the
15 victims of bullying were more likely to report receiving lower
16 grades than their non-bullied counterparts; and

17 WHEREAS, victims of and witnesses to bullying often do
18 not inform adults because of intimidation by the bullies; and

19 WHEREAS, bullying behavior is identified as a problem
20 that creates a climate of fear and intimidation that affects
21 children and youths in multiple environments within the
22 community, including youth clubs, sports and public and
23 private educational settings; and

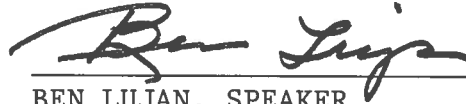
24 WHEREAS, bullying remains a public problem in New Mexico
25 requiring a public response and engagement by a variety of

1 stakeholders, including state and school officials, parents,
2 students and community members;

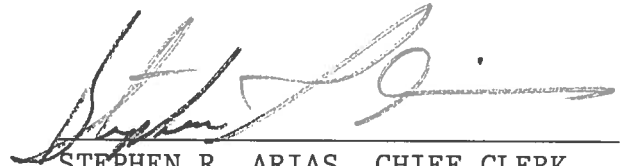
3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
4 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all school
5 districts in New Mexico be encouraged to actively engage
6 parents and community members in the development and
7 evaluation of bullying prevention programs; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that school districts make a
9 concerted effort to engage parents of students that have been
10 bullied, as well as community members and organizations with
11 experience, expertise or knowledge in working with and serving
12 bullied students; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the public education department for circulation
15 to the superintendent of each public school district in New
16 Mexico.



BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES