



The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

53rd Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2018

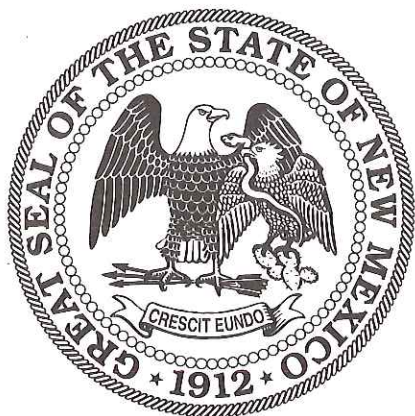
CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 94

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE RODOLPHO S. MARTINEZ
REPRESENTATIVE JAVIER I. MARTÍNEZ

REPRESENTATIVE G. ANDRÉS ROMERO
REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE DODGE JR.



1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT A TASK FORCE BE EXTENDED TO STUDY AND
3 RECOMMEND POLICY CHANGES TO EXPAND THE AVAILABILITY OF
4 RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE FOR GRANDPARENTS RAISING
5 GRANDCHILDREN.

6
7 WHEREAS, in 2014, the children, youth and families
8 department published a study on the availability of resources
9 to grandparents raising grandchildren, which study revealed a
10 dearth of public services and resources available to
11 grandparents raising grandchildren and, in particular, to
12 grandparents who lack legal custody of their grandchildren;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, a task force was convened in 2015, 2016 and
15 2017 to study and recommend concrete policy changes that
16 could be implemented to expand the availability of resources
17 and assistance to grandparents raising grandchildren,
18 including financial resources; legal services; and assistance
19 with food, housing, medical care, child care, transportation
20 and education; and

21 WHEREAS, the task force delivered its recommendations in
22 2017 to the legislative finance committee; and

23 WHEREAS, the task force recommended further study of the
24 issue of placement of children with caregivers, including
25 grandparents, by the children, youth and families department

1 and the lack of information and support for those caregivers;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the task force also recommended further study
4 of the issue of the denial of public benefits to children
5 being raised by grandparents and other caregivers due to
6 inaccurate information from and lack of training of case
7 managers at the income support division of the human services
8 department; and

9 WHEREAS, the recommendations included extending the task
10 force for an additional year to continue its studies and
11 refine its recommendations;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the task
14 force, including members who represent New Mexico voices for
15 children, Pegasus legal services for children, the New Mexico
16 coalition of educational leaders, court appointed special
17 advocates for children, the New Mexico parent-teacher
18 association, parents reaching out, the AARP, disability
19 rights New Mexico, the developmental disabilities planning
20 council and Las Cumbres community services, incorporated; one
21 representative each from the human services department, the
22 children, youth and families department, the department of
23 health, the children's court, the public education
24 department, the aging and long-term services department and
25 the office of the attorney general; and two members from the

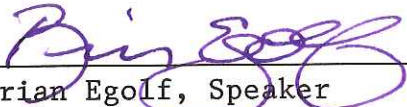
1 general public, be extended; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force study and
3 recommend concrete policy changes that could be implemented
4 to expand the availability of resources and assistance to
5 grandparents raising grandchildren, including financial
6 resources; legal services; food and housing assistance; and
7 programs relating to medical care, child care, transportation
8 and education; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the human services
10 department, the children, youth and families department and
11 the aging and long-term services department be requested to
12 coordinate and provide staff support to the task force; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its
14 findings and recommendations to the legislative health and
15 human services committee and the legislative finance
16 committee no later than November 2018; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
18 transmitted to the secretary of human services, the secretary
19 of children, youth and families and the secretary of aging and
20 long-term services. _____



Brian Egolf, Speaker
House of Representatives



Lisa M. Ortiz McCutcheon, Chief Clerk
House of Representatives