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First Adjustment to Child Support Schedule Gets Unanimous Legislative Approval

Santa Fe, New Mexico – This evening the Senate unanimously approved legislation that revises the basic child support schedule for the first time in 14 years.

House Bill 412, sponsored by Representative Al Park now heads to the Governor for final approval.

The legislation adjusts the basic child support schedule based on the combined gross income of both parents. The adjustment for the average middle-income family ranges from approximately a two to five percent increase.

“The adjustment to the child support guidelines is an appropriate and equitable way to keep pace with the state’s economy,” said Charissa Saavedra, Child Support Division Director with the Human Services Department

Under federal and state laws, the state’s child support guidelines are required to be reviewed every four years. Last year the New Mexico Child Support Guidelines Commission, comprised of District Judges, a child support hearing officer, attorneys, child support enforcement staff and an economist who specializes in child support guidelines reviewed the most recent economic data on child rearing costs, tax rates and a review of child support case data. The revisions are based on the Commission’s recommendations.

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