

**ROBERT P. McNEILL**

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December 9, 2003

**COPY**

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici  
United States Senate  
328 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: HR 4; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) reauthorization

Dear Senator Domenici:

I am privileged to serve on the board of New Mexico Voices for Children, and I'm enclosing a letter to you from our Executive Director Kay Monaco regarding a provision in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program reauthorization bill which would expand the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

Our organization requests that you consider co-sponsoring Senator Rockefeller's proposal to provide for a state level cross sectional SIPP survey to provide state-specific data on child well-being for every state in lieu of expanding SIPP, as HR 4 would authorize. A state-specific survey would provide much more useful data needed to evaluate New Mexico's TANF program, and at no additional cost. As Kay's letter mentions, policy makers in New Mexico often face a lack of timely New Mexico-specific data with reference to child and family well-being. Senator Rockefeller's measure would improve matters and provide New Mexico (and other states) with needed information about the welfare of our state's children.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our request and position in this matter.

Very truly yours,



ROBERT P. McNEILL

enclosure  
copy: Kay Monaco

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