

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

SENATE MEMORIAL 12

**57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

INTRODUCED BY

Martin Hickey

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO PERFORM A STUDY TO IDENTIFY OPTIONS TO INCREASE PAY FOR PROVIDERS OF MEDICAL SPECIALTIES TO ENSURE NEW MEXICO IS REGIONALLY COMPETITIVE IN RECRUITING AND RETAINING THOSE PROVIDERS.

WHEREAS, in recent years, medical specialty provider groups have been unable to recruit and hire new physicians; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that New Mexico is the state with the greatest average age of physicians; and

WHEREAS, nearly one-half of New Mexico residents are enrolled in medicaid, which only pays medical specialists one hundred percent of the rate for services that would be covered by medicare for evaluation and management medical services codes and just sixty to seventy percent of the rate for services that would be covered by medicare for procedural

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 medical services codes; and

2 WHEREAS, the medicare program has consistently reduced  
3 physician payments over the past five years; and

4 WHEREAS, eighteen percent of the population in New Mexico  
5 is covered by medicare, which is three percent higher than the  
6 national average; and

7 WHEREAS, just twenty-five percent of medical billing in  
8 New Mexico is covered by the commercial market, compared to  
9 other states' commercial market medical billing rates of fifty  
10 to seventy percent, which means New Mexico does not have an  
11 effective cost-shifting mechanism from higher commercial market  
12 rates to balance the amount of government rate billing; and

13 WHEREAS, New Mexico residents are currently experiencing  
14 delays of six to eighteen months to see a specialist medical  
15 provider, which results in residents experiencing needless  
16 suffering and severely unattended chronic disease  
17 exacerbations;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
19 OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative finance committee be  
20 requested to perform a study to identify options to increase  
21 pay for providers of medical specialties to ensure New Mexico  
22 is regionally competitive in recruiting and retaining those  
23 providers; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature be encouraged  
25 to provide funding to the legislative finance committee in the

.231000.1

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 amount of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to provide  
2 for a contractor to complete the study; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
4 transmitted to the president pro tempore of the senate, the  
5 speaker of the house of representatives and the director of the  
6 legislative finance committee.

7 - 3 -  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25