

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
2000**

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION TO STUDY
THE MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLIES IN NEW MEXICO TO DETERMINE THE
LEVELS OF FLUORIDE FOR EFFECTIVE DENTAL DECAY PREVENTION.

WHEREAS, the fluoridation of water has proven to be one
of the greatest health prevention measures to be introduced
in the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, water fluoridation has been the basis for the
primary prevention of dental decay for fifty-five years; and

WHEREAS, water fluoridation helps to lower the cost of
dental care; and

WHEREAS, a minimum of seventy-five percent of the
municipal water systems delivering fluoridated water is
needed to meet national oral health objectives; and

WHEREAS, sixty-five percent of New Mexico's municipal
water supply is delivering the benefits of fluoridated water;

underscored material = new
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1 and

2 WHEREAS, twenty-one states other than New Mexico meet
3 the national oral health objective of seventy-five percent or
4 higher; and of those twenty-one states fourteen are at ninety
5 percent or higher, and four states are at one hundred
6 percent; and

7 WHEREAS, New Mexico should also have one hundred percent
8 optimum fluoride in its public water supplies;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico health policy
11 commission be requested to study the municipal water supplies
12 in New Mexico to determine which municipal water supplies
13 have optimum levels of fluoridation and make recommendations
14 regarding issues of fluoridation, including the following:

15 A. the costs and resources required to fluoridate
16 municipal water systems serving over two thousand five
17 hundred people;

18 B. the costs and resources required to fluoridate
19 municipal water systems serving fewer than two thousand five
20 hundred people;

21 C. legislatively mandating fluoridation for
22 municipal water;

23 D. the need for establishment of a statewide
24 dental health fluoride advisory committee; and

25 E. determination of the barriers to optimum
fluoridation of municipal water supplies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico health policy

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underscored material = new
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1 commission be requested to review the literature and compile
2 the most current information concerning sub-optimum, optimum
3 and excessive fluoride levels in drinking water; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico health policy
5 commission be requested to review current fluoridation
6 initiatives in small population, surrounding and rural states
7 and compile a report; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico health policy
9 commission be requested to review current fluoridation
10 initiatives of the Indian health service and compile a
11 report; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico health policy
13 commission be requested to report its findings by November 1,
14 2000 to the appropriate legislative interim committee; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the chairman of the appropriate legislative
17 interim committee and the chairman of the New Mexico health
18 policy commission.