

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8

2 **44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - 2ND SPECIAL SESSION, 2000**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STATEWIDE DISABILITY AND
12 HEALTH SURVEY SYSTEM.

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14 WHEREAS, both for our state's needs and as required by
15 several federal programs, New Mexico's department of health
16 collects various data for assessing and evaluating the health
17 of all New Mexicans; and

18 WHEREAS, data collected includes information on various
19 physical and mental disabilities; and

20 WHEREAS, with expanded information collected from a
21 revised survey system, the department of health can more
22 accurately project coming service and expenditure needs and
23 build these responsibilities into its budget; and

24 WHEREAS, the number of persons with severe disabilities
25 will increase greatly in the coming decades due to reduced
infant mortality, medical advances in treatment of persons
with chronic conditions and serious injuries and an

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1 increasing elderly population; and

2 WHEREAS, persons with disabilities have a substantially
3 increased risk for developing additional or secondary health
4 problems and the national center for health statistics
5 estimates costs for such health care to be five times that of
6 individuals without disabilities; and

7 WHEREAS, the department of health currently engages in
8 regular studies, such as the annual behavioral risk factor
9 surveillance system and the children's chronic conditions
10 register, as well as complementary injury data surveys;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health and the
13 center for development and disability at the school of
14 medicine at the university of New Mexico cooperate in the
15 expansion of their various survey strategies to create a
16 comprehensive statewide disability surveillance system; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include
18 recommendations on funding such a comprehensive statewide
19 disability surveillance system; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 sent to the dean of the school of medicine at the university
22 of New Mexico and to the secretary of health.