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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 80

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

INTRODUCED BY

Dani ce R. Pi craux

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING THE INTERAGENCY BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO
CONSOLIDATE ITS ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS AND DATA WAREHOUSES.**

WHEREAS, the risk management division of the general services department, the retiree health care authority, the public school insurance authority and the Albuquerque public schools comprise the interagency benefits advisory committee participating in the consolidated purchasing single process pursuant to the Health Care Purchasing Act; and

WHEREAS, the interagency benefits advisory committee was mandated to study and provide a status report on the consolidation of administrative functions; and

WHEREAS, the interagency benefits advisory committee was required to consolidate, standardize and administer the administrative functions that those entities can effectively

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1 and efficiently administer by December 1, 2003; and

2 WHEREAS, the interagency benefits advisory committee may
3 enter into joint powers agreements pursuant to the Joint
4 Powers Agreements Act with other publicly funded health care
5 agencies and political subdivisions to determine assessments
6 or provisions of resources to consolidate, standardize and
7 administer the consolidated purchasing single process and
8 subsequent activities pursuant to the Health Care Purchasing
9 Act and may enter into contracts with nonpublic persons to
10 provide the service of determining assessments or provision of
11 resources for consolidation, standardization and
12 administrative activities; and

13 WHEREAS, each agency within the interagency benefits
14 advisory committee will retain its responsibility to determine
15 policy direction of the benefit plans, plan development,
16 training and coordination with respect to participants and its
17 benefits staff, as well as to respond to benefits eligibility
18 inquiries and establish and enforce eligibility rules; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico taxpayers fund health care payers and
20 providers, pursuant to the Health Care Purchasing Act, that
21 produce volumes of data, yet useful health care information
22 for fiscal and policy planning remains limited or unavailable;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the need for consolidated administration and
25 standardized data has been well documented, as presented by

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1 numerous persons to various interim committees; and

2 WHEREAS, the federal Health Insurance Portability and
3 Accountability Act of 1996 mandates the standardization of
4 electronic health care information and communication;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interagency benefits advisory
7 committee be requested to proceed with the consolidation of
8 administrative functions and the standardization of data
9 management and exchange for the risk management division of
10 the general services department, the retiree health care
11 authority, the public school insurance authority and the
12 Albuquerque public schools; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency benefits
14 advisory committee, through their respective agencies,
15 contract with an external, independent benefits consultant or
16 consolidation expert to develop an implementation plan that
17 shall be presented to the legislative council or the
18 legislative finance committee; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency benefits
20 advisory committee contract for:

21 A. one base benefit plan that provides each agency
22 with cafeteria plan-type options;

23 B. a common pharmacy plan with a formulary; and

24 C. a state-run plan that includes a consolidated,
25 internally operated administration; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency benefits
2 advisory committee be requested to present a status report on
3 consolidation and standardization to an appropriate interim
4 committee by September 1, 2002; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency benefits
6 advisory committee ensure implementation of the consolidation
7 and standardization plan by July 1, 2003; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the human services department
9 and the New Mexico health policy commission, in conjunction
10 with the interagency benefits advisory committee, prepare a
11 comparison of the benefits available under the entire state
12 medicaid program and health care plans purchased pursuant to
13 the Health Care Purchasing Act and present their findings to
14 the New Mexico legislative council or the legislative finance
15 committee by September 1, 2002; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
17 transmitted to the risk management division of the general
18 services department, the retiree health care authority, the
19 public school insurance authority, the Albuquerque public
20 schools, the human services department, the New Mexico health
21 policy commission, the New Mexico legislative council and the
22 legislative finance committee.