

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 18

2 **50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Richard C. Martinez

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8 FOR THE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO WORK WITH THE
12 INTERAGENCY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PURCHASING COLLABORATIVE, THE NEW
13 MEXICO VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, VIETNAM VETERANS OF
14 AMERICA CHAPTER 358 AND OTHER NECESSARY ORGANIZATIONS TO STUDY
15 THE UNMET BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF
16 VETERANS IN NEW MEXICO.

17
18 WHEREAS, veterans have fought to defend the country, and
19 they deserve to be treated with the best health care possible;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, state and federal governments have not supplied
22 sufficient services to provide for the necessary behavioral
23 health and primary health care needs of veterans; and

24 WHEREAS, comprehensive, reliable, consistent data is
25 essential to planning the support that is needed to provide for

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1 the necessary behavioral health and primary health care needs
2 of veterans in the state; and

3 WHEREAS, the withdrawal of military forces from Iraq by
4 the end of 2011, and from Afghanistan by 2014, will
5 significantly increase the number of veterans needing
6 behavioral health and primary health care services; and

7 WHEREAS, it is important to identify the gaps in
8 behavioral health and primary health care services for veterans
9 currently living in the state, and for veterans that are soon
10 to be coming home;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the veterans' services department be
13 requested to collaborate with the interagency behavioral health
14 purchasing collaborative, the New Mexico veterans health
15 administration, Vietnam veterans of America Chapter 358 and
16 other necessary organizations to study the unmet behavioral
17 health and primary health care needs of veterans in the state;
18 and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings of the study be
20 reported to the military and veterans' affairs committee on or
21 before November 1, 2012; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the secretary of veterans' services.