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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 2

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

Meredith A. Dixon and Michael Padilla and Tara Jaramillo

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STUDY THE IMPACT OF MULTI-SYSTEM FAMILIES ON STATE AGENCY BUDGETS AND SOCIAL SERVICE OUTCOMES FOR THOSE INDIVIDUAL FAMILY MEMBERS AND FAMILIES.

WHEREAS, multi-system families are those for whom at least two generations are engaged with two or more social service agencies; and

WHEREAS, research from New Mexico appleased estimates that sixteen thousand New Mexico families are multi-system families; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico spends a significant amount of state and federal funds each year on multi-system families addressing and responding to poverty, hunger, mental health, child welfare, criminal justice and other related social issues; and

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1 WHEREAS, these expenses account for nine hundred million
2 dollars (\$900,000,000) every year, amounting to approximately
3 eighty percent of the costs attributable to twenty percent of
4 the population; and

5 WHEREAS, research has established that focusing
6 evidence-based programs and funding multi-system families and
7 their members is a cost-saving intervention that can end the
8 cycle of poverty for those families; and

9 WHEREAS, the family success lab at the department of
10 health was established and is funded by the legislature to
11 identify and study the characteristics of multi-system families
12 and their members, but has yet to do this work; and

13 WHEREAS, federal and state privacy laws permit multi-
14 system family data to be shared for this purpose, and such data
15 sharing agreements have already been executed at the state
16 level;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
18 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health be requested
19 to use existing agency data to:

20 A. link agency data to create an unduplicated count
21 of individuals across agencies;

22 B. link individual data to family member data for
23 at least two generations of families in multiple social
24 services systems; and

25 C. estimate the costs of multi-system individuals

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1 and multi-system families annually to the agencies that have
2 contributed data; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the health care authority
4 department, the children, youth and families department, the
5 corrections department, the public education department and
6 other executive agencies be requested to share data with the
7 department of health in order to facilitate this study; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health be
9 requested to present the results of this research to the
10 legislature by November 15, 2024; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
12 transmitted to all executive agency cabinet secretaries and to
13 the office of the governor.