

1 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 20
2 42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
3 1996

4 INTRODUCED BY
5 DANICE R. PICRAUX
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8
9 FOR THE HEALTH CARE TASK FORCE
10

11 A JOINT MEMORIAL
12 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION, IN
13 COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE HUMAN SERVICES
14 DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, TO STUDY AND PROPOSE
15 OPTIONS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE BY BETTER USE OF PUBLIC
16 AND PRIVATE FUNDS.
17

18 WHEREAS, Section 9-7-11.1 NMSA 1978 states that it is the
19 policy of the state of New Mexico to promote optimal health, to
20 improve the quality of life and to assure that basic health
21 services are available, accessible, acceptable and culturally
22 appropriate, regardless of financial status; and

23 WHEREAS, although New Mexico has made progress to decrease
24 the number of uninsured residents, the rate of New Mexico's
25 uninsured residents still averages approximately twenty percent;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico is reportedly still among the three
3 states in the country with the highest percentage of uninsured
4 residents; and

5 WHEREAS, two-thirds of uninsured New Mexicans are working
6 people and their families; and

7 WHEREAS, children in New Mexico under age eighteen comprise
8 thirty-six percent of the state's uninsured; and

9 WHEREAS, despite the New Mexico legislature's expansion of
10 medicaid eligibility for children at up to one hundred eighty-
11 five percent of the federal poverty level and the creation of
12 the New Mexico health insurance alliance, the uninsured rate in
13 New Mexico still remains high; and

14 WHEREAS, New Mexico's health care delivery system is
15 considered a regional system in that the natural delivery areas
16 cross county and municipality boundaries; and

17 WHEREAS, pending constraints in federal funding and
18 potential federal block granting of the welfare and medicaid
19 programs, combined with the current decline in predicted state
20 revenues, warrant a reassessment of how the state can best
21 expand access to health care for New Mexicans and decrease the
22 uninsured rate; and

23 WHEREAS, pending federal and state revenue constraints
24 warrant a reexamination of financing health care delivery in New
25 Mexico and studying how the state can continue to decrease the

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1 number of uninsured New Mexicans and obtain the best value for
2 existing health care funds;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico health policy
5 commission, in cooperation with the department of health, the
6 human services department and the department of insurance, study
7 and propose options to improve access to comprehensive health
8 care by better use of existing public and private funds. The
9 options shall include a study of:

10 A. what financial resources are utilized from
11 federal, state and local governments to provide health care and
12 how those resources can be realigned to improve the efficiency
13 and effectiveness of health care financing and delivery and
14 health-related functions;

15 B. publicly funded insurance programs in the state
16 and how restructuring the programs can increase the value of the
17 money spent to insure the individuals participating in the
18 programs, enhance the quality of health care delivery and
19 improve access to health care insurance for a larger New Mexico
20 population;

21 C. the roles and responsibilities of the private
22 sector and state and local government entities providing health
23 care to determine the optimal administrative and operational
24 structure to accomplish an efficient state, regional and local
25 distribution of health care financing and services, including

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1 providing catastrophic health care coverage;

2 D. the development of mechanisms to inform the
3 consumer on health insurance purchasing options and choices,
4 including specifications for the consumer about cost, quality
5 and consumer preference; and

6 E. how private health care dollars can be used to
7 leverage public health care dollars to provide more health care
8 services for the uninsured; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico health policy
10 commission initiate the appropriate approach for public
11 solicitation that involves advocates, health care providers and
12 consumers in a community meeting process to seek consensus on
13 how to guide health care spending, allocation and benefits
14 decisions as those decisions relate to the study and proposed
15 options to improve access to comprehensive health care by better
16 use of existing public and private funds; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico health policy
18 commission seek input in its study from the risk management
19 division of the general services department, the public school
20 insurance authority, the retiree health care authority, the New
21 Mexico association of counties, the New Mexico municipal league
22 and the private sector; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico health policy
24 commission report and make recommendations to the appropriate
25 interim legislative committee by October 15, 1996 on a new

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1 health care financing system for New Mexico to continue to
2 improve access to health care by better use of existing public
3 and private funds; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be sent
5 to the executive director of the New Mexico health policy
6 commission, the secretary of health, the secretary of human
7 services and the superintendent of insurance.

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION, 1996

January 25, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 20

has had it under consideration and finds same to be
GERMANE in accordance with constitutional provisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Perea Casey,

Chairperson

Adopted _____

Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

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4 The roll call vote was 9 For 1 Against

5 Yes: 9

6 No: Nicely

7 Excused: Luna, Pederson, Rodella, R. G. Sanchez, J. G. Taylor

8 Absent: None

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996

February 6, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE, to whom has
been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 20

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Luna, Chairman

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 10 For 1 Against

Yes: 10
No: Alwin
Excused: None
Absent: Varela

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996

February 8, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 20

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS.

Respectfully submitted,

Max Coll, Chairman

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

Yes: 10

Excused: Bird, Buffett, Coll, Gentry, Martinez, Salazar, Varela,
Watchman

Absent: none

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