

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 81**

**45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001**

**INTRODUCED BY**

**Terry T. Marquardt**

**A JOINT MEMORIAL**

**REQUESTING A LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE STUDY OF CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTH CARE AGENCY.**

**WHEREAS, the publicly funded health care agency, created by the Health Care Purchasing Act, has recently overseen the adoption of health and dental coverage by its constituent members; and**

**WHEREAS, concerns have been expressed that the cost of the health care coverage provided to agency constituent members compares poorly to that available in other group coverage both in New Mexico and nationally; and**

**WHEREAS, questions have been raised that copayments for medical services are too high; and**

**WHEREAS, complaints have been voiced that the dental**

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 coverage currently provided was contracted for in the absence  
2 of competitive bids and that the benefits are inadequate; and

3 WHEREAS, questions about the dental coverage include  
4 concerns about the availability of sufficient dentists to meet  
5 member needs; and

6 WHEREAS, concerns have also been expressed that the  
7 vision coverage is inadequate; and

8 WHEREAS, the health benefits provided by member agencies  
9 through self-insurance are not subject to the Patient  
10 Protection Act nor the state's mental health parity statutes  
11 as these benefits are not regulated insurance products;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative finance committee be  
14 requested to study the overall programs of the publicly funded  
15 health care agency with an emphasis on the adequacy of  
16 coverage in relation to costs for all forms of benefits  
17 offered the various constituent memberships; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include  
19 recommendations, including cost factors, as to whether the  
20 respective constituent members should be subject to the  
21 Patient Protection Act and the mental health parity statutes  
22 and, if so, how best to accomplish that end; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study, and any  
24 legislative recommendations, be presented to the New Mexico  
25 legislative council and the legislative health and human

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 services committee at their November 2002 meetings; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
3 transmitted to each member agency of the publicly funded  
4 health care agency and to the legislative finance committee.

5 - 3 -  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25