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HOUSE BILL 113

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

INTRODUCED BY

Ray Ruiz

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO BENEFIT PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS AND TO COMPLY WITH CERTAIN  
FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. APPROPRIATION--PURPOSES. --

A. Seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) is  
appropriated from the general fund to the department of health  
for expenditure in fiscal year 2003 in the following amounts  
for the following purposes:

- (1) four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for an  
increase in reimbursement rates under the developmental  
disabilities waiver program in order to pay for increased  
program costs, including staffing costs such as overtime and  
increases in employee benefits; to provide salary adjustments

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1 to all employees to reduce turnover rates; and to provide a  
2 living wage to direct care staff at a minimum of ten dollars  
3 (\$10.00) per hour; and

4 (2) three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for an  
5 increase in the reimbursement rates for services provided  
6 exclusively with general fund appropriations, in order to  
7 bring these rates equal to the rates paid under the state  
8 medicaid waiver program for comparable services; to provide  
9 salary adjustments to all employees; and to provide a living  
10 wage to direct care staff of a minimum of ten dollars (\$10.00)  
11 per hour.

12 B. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance  
13 remaining at the end of fiscal year 2003 shall revert to the  
14 general fund.