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SENATE BILL 7

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

INTRODUCED BY

Manny M Aragon

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**

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

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.