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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 19

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

INTRODUCED BY

James R. Madalena

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE INSURANCE  
DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION AND OTHER STATE  
AGENCIES TO SUPPORT AND EXPEDITE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW  
MEXICO TRIBAL HEALTH CARE ALLIANCE AS A LICENSED MANAGED CARE  
ORGANIZATION FOR THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE TO  
AMERICAN INDIANS ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID SERVICES.

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico entered into a  
government-to-government agreement with all tribal governments  
with lands located within the exterior boundaries of the state  
of New Mexico, pledging that the state and the tribes would  
work together on areas of mutual concern; and

WHEREAS, the present state medicaid program, called  
"Salud!", includes mandates specific to the American Indian  
population of New Mexico, which population is underserved by

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1 the present operation of the Salud! program; and

2 WHEREAS, the New Mexico Tribal Health Care Alliance,  
3 incorporated, herein identified as the "alliance", was  
4 established under the direction of the nineteen Indian  
5 pueblos, the Jicarilla Apache Nation, the Mescalero Apache  
6 tribe, the Navajo Nation communities of Tohajiilee, Alamo and  
7 Ramah and the Albuquerque urban Indian health coalition to  
8 address the Salud! medicaid program mandates specific to the  
9 American Indian population of New Mexico; and

10 WHEREAS, the alliance has moved rapidly to build an  
11 infrastructure that will fulfill the specific mandates of  
12 Salud! that apply to the American Indian population in the  
13 state, including the establishment of a preferred provider  
14 relationship with the Indian health service; and

15 WHEREAS, the goals of the alliance are to maximize the  
16 involvement of tribal leaders in health issues, to serve as an  
17 information source on American Indian health care issues, to  
18 contract with the state to provide services funded by Salud!,  
19 to partner with the Indian health service as a preferred  
20 provider to maximize health care delivery to American Indian  
21 people and to contract with other organizations to purchase  
22 quality health care resources; and

23 WHEREAS, in order to accomplish these goals, the alliance  
24 must negotiate to become a new managed care organization in  
25 New Mexico with the insurance division of the public

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1 regulation commission and the human services department in  
2 order to deliver quality health care to American Indian people  
3 who are eligible to receive medicaid benefits;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the use of the Joint Powers  
6 Agreements Act to produce agreements between the New Mexico  
7 Tribal Health Care Alliance, incorporated, and the human  
8 services department, the insurance division of the public  
9 regulation commission and any other agencies whose cooperation  
10 and agreement is required to enable the establishment of a new  
11 managed care organization in New Mexico to deliver quality  
12 health care to American Indian people who are eligible for  
13 medicaid benefits be supported; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature support the  
15 commitment to self-determination of the nineteen Indian  
16 pueblos, the Jicarilla Apache Nation, the Mescalero Apache  
17 tribe and the Navajo Nation communities of Tohajiilee, Alamo  
18 and Ramah in concert with the Albuquerque urban Indian health  
19 coalition in the creation of the alliance and the subsequent  
20 working relationship that the alliance has developed with the  
21 Indian health service for the purpose of providing the highest  
22 quality of health care for American Indian people; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the human services  
24 department, the insurance division of the public regulation  
25 commission and any other state agencies that are necessary to

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1 license a managed care organization facilitate and expedite  
2 negotiations with the alliance to approve that organization as  
3 a licensed managed care organization so that it can access  
4 medicaid funding and provide services for American Indian  
5 people eligible to receive medicaid benefits; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
7 transmitted to the commissioners of the public regulation  
8 commission, the superintendent of insurance, the deputy  
9 secretary of human services and the director of the medical  
10 assistance division of the human services department.