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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 35
45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

INTRODUCED BY
Sue Wilson Beffort

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AND
THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION OF THE HUMAN
SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND OTHERS TO IDENTIFY ALL AVENUES TO
MAXIMIZE PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNTS THAT MAY BE ACHIEVED BY
USING THE FEDERAL 340B PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the federal 340B program provides discounts on
outpatient drugs to certain covered entities; and

WHEREAS, the federal 340B program provides access to
these discounts to more than eight thousand health care
facilities in the nation that are certified as covered
entities by the United States department of health and human
services; and

WHEREAS, more than one hundred fifty entities in New
Mexico are already participating in this valuable discount
program; and

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1 WHEREAS, the 340B program makes pharmaceuticals more
2 affordable with reported real savings of twenty-five to fifty
3 percent off the regular high prices; and

4 WHEREAS, under this federal program it may be possible to
5 achieve even greater discounts than are currently being
6 achieved by the medicaid program; and

7 WHEREAS, there is a significant number of safety net
8 providers in the state that qualify as covered entities, but
9 that are not participating in the 340B program; and

10 WHEREAS, expansion of the 340B program to more covered
11 entities will result in cheaper prescription drugs for many
12 people being served by these covered entities who otherwise
13 have no or limited access to discounted prescription drug
14 prices; and

15 WHEREAS, it is also possible that expansion of the 340B
16 program to medicaid could result in substantial savings in
17 medicaid;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the medical assistance division of
20 the human services department be requested to lead an
21 interagency group, including the department of health, the
22 state agency on aging and appropriate private health care
23 organizations, to explore all avenues to maximize prescription
24 drug discounts that may be achieved by using the federal 340B
25 program; and

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