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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 73
46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY
James Roger Madalena

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CREATE AN
INTERIM MEDICAID OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, the legislature, recognizing the significant growth in state health care expenditures, created the medicaid reform committee pursuant to Laws 2002, Chapter 96 during the second session of the forty-fifth legislature; and

WHEREAS, the medicaid reform committee's findings and recommendations identified twenty-four program changes, eleven studies, pilots and waiver requests and several other initiatives for the forty-sixth legislature's consideration; and

WHEREAS, the current administration and the legislature have recognized the medicaid reform committee's initiatives as the beginning of needed reforms; and

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1 WHEREAS, the human services department is interested in
2 reviewing or pursuing the medicaid reform committee's
3 initiatives as that department works to restructure the
4 medicaid program; and

5 WHEREAS, medicaid is a significant part of the health care
6 industry, and the state is chiefly responsible for the
7 administration of the medicaid program within a broad federal
8 framework; and

9 WHEREAS, medicaid continues to be one of the largest
10 drivers of state budgets nationwide, with health care inflation
11 expected to increase by ten percent or more per year for the
12 foreseeable future; and

13 WHEREAS, the federal government is considering various
14 options to reform medicare and medicaid that would have
15 significant impacts on the state;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
18 requested to create an interim medicaid oversight committee to
19 work with the human services department and other health care
20 related agencies to:

21 A. review federal proposals for medicaid reform and
22 provide input to the state's congressional delegation on the
23 impact to the state;

24 B. review the administration's efforts to reform
25 medicaid and control the rate of growth and expenditures;

1 C. review the status of the initiatives proposed by
2 the medicaid reform committee; and

3 D. consider the impact of medicaid reform on the
4 health care industry in the state; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the medicaid oversight
6 committee develop recommendations by November 30, 2003 to
7 assist the human services department in reforming medicaid,
8 including legislation to restructure the various elements of
9 the medicaid program; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
11 transmitted to the human services department and the New Mexico
12 legislative council.