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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 10

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Gloria C. Vaughn

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

**EXPRESSING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE'S RECOGNITION AND
APPRECIATION OF DIRECT CARE STAFF WHO PROVIDE DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITY COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES.**

**WHEREAS, persons of any age with developmental
disabilities have substantial functional limitations related to
mental or physical impairment, including brain trauma; and**

**WHEREAS, these persons require specialized, lifelong
individualized services and support; and**

**WHEREAS, these services are provided in homes and
community settings by dedicated, caring individuals, including
privately employed direct care staff; and**

**WHEREAS, the direct care staff who provide these services
are devoted, concerned and hard-working individuals; and**

WHEREAS, the direct care staff generally assist their

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1 developmentally disabled clients to enjoy family, community and
2 social lives to the maximum extent possible; and

3 WHEREAS, this staff is drawn from a labor market that
4 competes with other entry-level jobs that are less physically
5 and emotionally demanding; and

6 WHEREAS, the salaries for these caregiving individuals is
7 generally very low, resulting in frequent turnover and vacancy
8 problems in provider agencies;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislature express recognition
11 and appreciation for New Mexico's large cadre of dedicated
12 direct care staff who provide developmental disability
13 community-based services; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this memorial be transmitted
15 to developmental disability community-based care providers and
16 the interim legislative health and human services committee.