1	SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 19
2	46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	Manny M Aragon
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8	FOR THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
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10	A JOINT MEMORIAL
11	REQUESTING THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR A
12	MEDICAID WAIVER TO MAKE PERSONS RELEASED FROM STATE
13	INSTITUTIONS ELIGIBLE FOR THE MEDICAID PROGRAM
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15	WHEREAS, many of the persons released from state
16	institutions have need for continued health care after their
17	return to the community; and
18	WHEREAS, New Mexico's medicaid program covers only adults
19	with categorical disabilities and incomes under thirty-seven
20	percent of the 1995 federal poverty level and persons with
21	dependents who are receiving federal supplemental security
22	income; and
23	WHEREAS, qualification for supplemental security income
24	has become increasingly difficult; and
25	WHEREAS, any New Mexican receiving medicaid benefits loses
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<u>underscored mterial = new</u> [bracketed mterial] = delete eligibility upon entering a state institution, but does not automatically resume enrollment upon release from that institution; and

WHEREAS, a large percentage of New Mexico citizens returning to their communities after institutionalization need medications and continued treatment for various health conditions immediately upon release but have no access to either;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the human services department be requested to apply for a medicaid waiver from the federal health care financing administration to enable New Mexico citizens meeting medicaid eligibility who leave institutions and who were enrolled in medicaid prior to institutionalization to enjoy presumptive eligibility and immediate access to medicaid benefits upon completion of the enrollment process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the medicaid waiver enable other New Mexico citizens leaving institutions to be eligible for medicaid upon completion of the enrollment process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the medicaid waiver include all options that will maximize the potential medicaid benefits to all New Mexicans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of human services and the .143268.1

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