

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 67

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Helen Garcia

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO DIRECT THE
APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE TESTIMONY ON THE LACK
OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR GENERAL ANESTHESIA FOR
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY AND RECOMMEND LEGISLATION FOR THE NEXT
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

WHEREAS, dental caries is the most common chronic disease
of childhood and when left untreated, necessitates extensive
restorative treatment; and

WHEREAS, for many children, the most appropriate treatment
requires general anesthesia and the operating room; and

WHEREAS, insurance coverage, whether dental or general
medical, excludes general anesthesia, resulting in tremendous
expense for families that may dissuade or postpone treatment
until more serious illness results;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be requested to direct the appropriate interim committee to receive testimony on the lack of health insurance coverage for general anesthesia for pediatric dentistry and recommend legislation for the next regular legislative session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.