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**HOUSE MEMORIAL 4**

**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

**INTRODUCED BY**

**Dani ce Pi craux**

**A MEMORIAL**

**CALLING ON THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT QUALITY-CONTROL PROCEDURES IN ITS MEDICAID RECERTIFICATION PROCESS BEFORE CLOSING A MEDICAID FILE AND TO AUDIT ITS NEW AUTOMATIC-CLOSURE PROCESS.**

**WHEREAS, an estimated twenty-one thousand children have lost medicaid health coverage over the past two years; and**

**WHEREAS, the number of persons on medicaid in New Mexico is the lowest it has been since 2002; and**

**WHEREAS, the human services department implemented a new program to close medicaid cases automatically without review if clients have not properly recertified; and**

**WHEREAS, over one hundred twenty thousand medicaid cases have been automatically closed since the new policy was put in place; and**

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1           WHEREAS, an estimated seventy-five percent of the closed  
2 cases were reinstated; and

3           WHEREAS, thus far, there has been no adequate explanation  
4 of why such a high percentage of cases that were automatically  
5 closed were reinstated; and

6           WHEREAS, when a medicaid file is automatically closed,  
7 children as well as parents lose medicaid benefits; and

8           WHEREAS, children cannot ensure that their parents  
9 properly recertify or reapply for them; and

10          WHEREAS, between the automatic closure of a medicaid case  
11 and its reinstatement, a child's health care is disrupted; and

12          WHEREAS, such disruption of the doctor-child relationship  
13 may cause interruption in vaccination regimens; and

14          WHEREAS, there is no process in place for auditing  
15 whether cases are appropriately closed;

16          NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the human  
18 services department be encouraged to track the numbers of  
19 cases terminated on a monthly basis and to institute an audit  
20 process in order to determine the percentage of terminated  
21 cases and whether those cases are later reinstated; and

22          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the human services department  
23 be encouraged to track a representative sample of cases  
24 assigned for automatic termination, reviewing such sample  
25 cases before actually terminating clients; and

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