

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A STATEWIDE DATABASE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ANGER MANAGEMENT COUNSELING AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, substance abuse treatment and prevention programs are spread throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the spectrum of substance abuse programs runs the gamut from drug addiction to alcohol treatment and from prevention to crisis management; and

WHEREAS, the need for substance abuse programs often presents itself as urgent when a person is in need of intervention or treatment; and

WHEREAS, finding help in a substance abuse program often requires a waiting period; and

WHEREAS, in New Mexico, there is a system of substance abuse and treatment programs that is difficult to navigate, making it difficult to coordinate an available treatment slot with an appropriate location; and

WHEREAS, responsibility and accountability for domestic violence programs are similarly spread across agencies and throughout the state and, therefore, programs are difficult to access; and

WHEREAS, anger management and counseling are critically important to reducing violence and improving the viability of

New Mexico families;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the human services department and the department of health be requested to coordinate their staff and make efforts to create a database of substance abuse programs and domestic violence and anger management counseling and treatment programs and make it available to providers, health and psychological professionals and others who may need to refer clients for treatment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the database and an inventory of all substance abuse programs be continuously updated and maintained; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a representative of the human services department and a representative of the department of health provide an update to the legislative health and human services committee during the 2008 interim on the departments' efforts to create and maintain such a database; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of human services, the secretary of health, the New Mexico medical society and the chair of the legislative health and human services committee.