

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A SUBCOMMITTEE
3 TO CONDUCT A STUDY AND REPORT ON WAYS TO REDUCE THE TIME THAT
4 ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WAIT FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY
5 SERVICES.

6
7 WHEREAS, people with developmental disabilities are
8 among New Mexico's most vulnerable residents; and

9 WHEREAS, people with developmental disabilities and
10 their families benefit greatly from the accommodations and
11 services that enable them to live safely and productively in
12 communities across the state; and

13 WHEREAS, without that support, those with developmental
14 disabilities would be less able to live independently and
15 their families would be less able to care for them; and

16 WHEREAS, young adults with developmental disabilities
17 who have recently left the public school system are in
18 particular need of timely access to services; and

19 WHEREAS, those services, such as employment support,
20 promote independence and inclusion in community life, help to
21 preserve essential skills and reduce the hardship on
22 caregivers, who, without the services, might have to leave
23 their jobs; and

24 WHEREAS, the developmental disabilities supports
25 division of the department of health operates programs for

1 those with developmental disabilities; and

2 WHEREAS, the developmental disabilities supports
3 division, through the developmental disabilities waiver
4 program, is funded to serve only about four thousand one
5 hundred individuals each year; and

6 WHEREAS, as of December 31, 2012, approximately six
7 thousand individuals are waiting for services offered through
8 those programs; and

9 WHEREAS, the average time between placement on the
10 central registry and the receipt of services is eleven years;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, there is a great difference in time between
13 placement and services based on where a person lives; and

14 WHEREAS, the department of health has begun to reform
15 its programs to improve the timeliness of access to critical
16 services; and

17 WHEREAS, the need for developmental disabilities
18 services calls for more funding and greater capacity to
19 reduce the wait of individuals for services; and

20 WHEREAS, having additional persons served by the waiver
21 program will create jobs throughout the state, which would
22 benefit New Mexico's economy;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
24 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health be
25 requested to convene a subcommittee of the advisory council

1 on quality supports for individuals with developmental
2 disabilities and their families; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the subcommittee be composed
4 of, among others, individuals with developmental
5 disabilities, family members and guardians of individuals
6 with developmental disabilities, representatives of the
7 developmental disabilities supports division and
8 representatives of the medical assistance division of the
9 human services department; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the subcommittee also
11 include members of the advisory council who represent service
12 providers and case managers and representatives of disability
13 rights New Mexico, the ARC of New Mexico, parents reaching
14 out, the center for development and disability and the
15 developmental disabilities planning council; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the subcommittee study and
17 identify strategies to reduce the time between placement on
18 the central registry and access to services offered by the
19 developmental disabilities supports division to not more than
20 three years and reexamine the statewide allocation formula to
21 ensure that regional allocations are made equitably and
22 consistent with the decision in *Lewis v. New Mexico*
23 *Department of Health* (2001); and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the developmental
25 disabilities supports division provide subject-matter experts

1 to work with the subcommittee; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the subcommittee make formal
3 recommendations to the full advisory council; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the developmental
5 disabilities supports division, within its authority and
6 consistent with funding appropriated by the legislature for
7 this purpose, act on the advisory council's recommendations
8 and prepare a report detailing what would be needed to
9 accomplish by fiscal year 2018 the goal of reducing the wait
10 time of any person needing services to a maximum of three
11 years; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report address the
13 effective use of current programs and resources, describe
14 critical components for success, identify potential
15 obstacles, detail the action needed to address each critical
16 component and potential obstacle and include projections of
17 additional resources needed to reach the goal; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the developmental
19 disabilities supports division provide the report to the
20 secretary of health, the secretary of human services, the
21 legislative health and human services committee and the
22 legislative finance committee by October 1, 2013; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the developmental disabilities supports
25 division of the department of health; the secretary of health;

1 the secretary of human services; and the advisory council on
2 quality supports for individuals with developmental
3 disabilities and their families, for appropriate distribution
4 to interested persons. _____

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