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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 6

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014

INTRODUCED BY

Jacob R. Candelaria

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A HEALTH CARE
WORK FORCE WORKING GROUP TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW
MEXICO HEALTH CARE WORK FORCE.

WHEREAS, New Mexico has had a persistent shortage of
health care providers, especially in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that by 2030, thirty-three
percent of the New Mexico population will be over sixty years
of age; and

WHEREAS, data show that individuals over sixty years of
age use more health care services than individuals under sixty
years of age; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that the federal Patient
Protection and Affordable Care Act could provide health

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1 insurance to as many as three hundred thousand more New
2 Mexicans than are currently insured; and

3 WHEREAS, individuals with newfound access to health
4 insurance are expected to begin using more health care
5 services; and

6 WHEREAS, it is projected that between 2013 and 2020, New
7 Mexico will receive about six billion dollars (\$6,000,000,000)
8 of additional federal funding as a direct result of the federal
9 act, which will result in as much as one billion dollars
10 (\$1,000,000,000) in additional tax revenue; and

11 WHEREAS, health care represents one-sixth of the New
12 Mexico economy, and it is the sector with the largest projected
13 growth;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary of health be requested
16 to convene a health care work force working group with
17 membership drawn from the department of health, the human
18 services department, the legislative finance committee, the
19 economic development department, the leadership of the
20 legislative health and human services committee and the New
21 Mexico health policy commission; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the leadership of each house
23 of the legislature be requested to appoint the legislative
24 members of the working group; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the health care work force

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1 working group be requested to meet monthly from April through
2 September 2014; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies, the
4 legislative finance committee and the legislative council
5 service be requested to provide staff to the health care work
6 force working group as appropriate to carry out the work of the
7 health care work force working group; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the health care work force
9 working group create advisory groups made up of representatives
10 from consumer advocacy organizations; health care provider
11 organizations, including hospitals; health professional
12 recruiters; institutions that train health care providers;
13 Native American nations, tribes and pueblos; and organizations
14 representing traditionally underserved populations; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the health care work force
16 working group be requested to receive input and recommendations
17 from the public and from advisory groups for consideration and
18 that the health care work force working group present to the
19 governor and the legislature recommendations and proposed
20 action steps for administrative, legislative, regulatory,
21 operational and financial initiatives necessary to develop the
22 health care work force; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the health care work force
24 working group be requested to make recommendations regarding
25 capturing revenue generated from the federal funds related to

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1 the expansion of the state's medicaid program and subsidies for
2 the purchase of health insurance through the New Mexico health
3 insurance exchange; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the health care work force
5 working group be requested to make recommendations on how
6 available revenue can be used to expand the health care work
7 force; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the health care work force
9 working group be requested to review the effectiveness of
10 existing tax incentives aimed at developing and maintaining the
11 state's health care work force and make recommendations on how
12 those credits may be revised or redirected; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the health care work force
14 working group present its recommendations to the governor, the
15 legislative finance committee and the legislative health and
16 human services committee by October 1, 2014; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
18 transmitted to the governor, the speaker of the house of
19 representatives, the president pro tempore of the senate, the
20 executive director of the New Mexico health policy commission,
21 the chair and vice chair of the legislative finance committee,
22 the chair and vice chair of the legislative health and human
23 services committee, the secretary of health, the secretary of
24 human services and the secretary of economic development.