

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY TO
3 CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE POTENTIAL SUSTAINABLE
4 FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE NEW MEXICO POISON AND DRUG INFORMATION
5 CENTER AND TO REPORT FINDINGS.

6
7 WHEREAS, New Mexico has long realized the importance of
8 understanding issues surrounding morbidity and mortality
9 caused by poisons and drugs; and

10 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information
11 center is a public service program of the university of New
12 Mexico health sciences center and is affiliated with the
13 college of pharmacy; and

14 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information
15 center serves as a resource for the entire state; and

16 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information
17 center plays a significant role in reducing morbidity and
18 mortality associated with accidental ingestion and overdose of
19 poison and drugs; and

20 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information
21 center is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week
22 to the public and to health professionals, with expert staff
23 making treatment recommendations during potential poisonings
24 and assisting emergency personnel during hazardous material
25 incidents; and

1 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information
2 center takes on a role that no other group can fulfill; and

3 WHEREAS, during fiscal year 2014, the center received
4 twenty-seven thousand nine hundred thirty-five poison "help"
5 calls; and

6 WHEREAS, in many cases, the center helps prevent costly
7 trips to the emergency department by providing life-saving
8 treatment information over the phone; and

9 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information
10 center is funded as a special project through the New Mexico
11 legislature, and a source of sustainable funding for the
12 center never has been clearly identified; and

13 WHEREAS, a study of potential sustainable funding
14 sources for the New Mexico poison and drug information center
15 would assist the center in planning;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the university of New Mexico college
18 of pharmacy be requested to convene a working group to study
19 possible options to address sustainable funding for the New
20 Mexico poison and drug information center; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
22 representatives of the Bernalillo county department of
23 substance abuse programs, the Albuquerque police department,
24 Indian health service, the safe kids coalition, the
25 superintendent of insurance, blue cross blue shield of New

1 Mexico, united healthcare, the New Mexico pharmacist
2 association, the New Mexico society of health systems
3 pharmacists, the New Mexico chapter of the American college
4 of emergency physicians, the New Mexico emergency medical
5 technicians association, the New Mexico medical society, the
6 New Mexico emergency nurses association, the New Mexico
7 chapter of the association of public-safety communications
8 officials, the New Mexico chapter of the national emergency
9 number association and the united way of central New Mexico;
10 and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group report its
12 findings and recommendations of possible sustainable funding
13 sources to the appropriate interim committee and the
14 legislative finance committee by November 1, 2015; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the governor, the legislative finance
17 committee and the director of the university of New Mexico
18 college of pharmacy. _____

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