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HOUSE MEMORIAL 9

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

David E. Adkins

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DISABILITY TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT A STUDY AND REPORT ON WAYS TO IMPROVE THE SYSTEM OF HEALTH CARE TRANSITION FOR NEW MEXICO CHILDREN AND YOUTHS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS.

WHEREAS, a 2010 national survey of children with special health care needs found that New Mexico had seventy thousand seven hundred twenty-four children and youths with special health care needs; and

WHEREAS, according to the national survey, the prevalence of children and youths with special health care needs between the ages of twelve and seventeen in New Mexico was seventeen and nine-tenths percent, compared to the national average of .198218.1

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1 sixteen and eight-tenths percent; and

2 WHEREAS, children and youths with special health care
3 needs between the ages of twelve and nineteen years of age are
4 aging out of the pediatric medical environment and need to make
5 a transition to adult health care providers; and

6 WHEREAS, there are few systems or resources available to
7 aid pediatric and adult health care providers and children and
8 youths with special health care needs and their families in the
9 process of transition from pediatric to adult health care; and

10 WHEREAS, numerous research studies have shown that
11 policies, systems and services tend to lack coordination and
12 are fragmented, and children and youths with disabilities and
13 their families lack the information they need to successfully
14 navigate the transition from pediatric to adult health care;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, numerous research studies have shown that health
17 care fragmentation and the lack of effective transition and
18 transfer of health care services have a negative impact on the
19 health of patients throughout their life spans; and

20 WHEREAS, optimal health care is achieved when each person,
21 at every age, receives medically and developmentally
22 appropriate care;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department
25 of health's children's medical services program and the

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1 university of New Mexico center for development and disability
2 be requested to convene a task force on health care transition
3 for New Mexico children and youths with special health care
4 needs; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of,
6 among others, one or more young adults who are experiencing or
7 who have experienced the transition process from pediatric to
8 adult health care; and representatives of the university of New
9 Mexico hospital, Presbyterian hospital, the medical assistance
10 division of the human services department, parents reaching
11 out, the New Mexico medical society, the office of
12 superintendent of insurance, healthinsight New Mexico, the
13 governor's commission on disability and special olympics New
14 Mexico; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force also include a
16 family and community medicine physician, a pediatric physician
17 and a psychiatrist specializing in services to children and
18 youths with special health care needs; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force also include
20 representatives of the four medicaid managed care organizations
21 providing services through the centennial care program; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to
23 identify and study existing barriers to effective health care
24 transition and transfer services for New Mexico children and
25 youths with special health care needs; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to
2 identify and study strategies to address the barriers to
3 effective health care transition and transfer services,
4 including evidence-based strategies that have been successfully
5 used in other states; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to
7 make formal recommendations for changes to existing policies,
8 programs and regulatory provisions or recommendations on new
9 policies, programs or regulatory provisions that would:

10 A. address barriers to effective health care
11 transition for children and youths with special health care
12 needs;

13 B. result in more effective services for children
14 and youths with special health care needs as they make the
15 transition from pediatric to adult health care services;

16 C. improve the efficiency of the health care
17 transition process;

18 D. ease the burden of the health care transition
19 process both on patients and their families; and

20 E. maximize outcomes, including lifelong
21 functioning and well-being, for children and youths with
22 special health care needs; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force provide a
24 report of its review and recommendations to the secretary of
25 health, the secretary of human services, the legislative health

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1 and human services committee, the disabilities concerns
2 subcommittee of the legislative health and human services
3 committee and the legislative finance committee by October 1,
4 2015; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the secretary of health, the secretary of human
7 services, the chancellor for health sciences of the university
8 of New Mexico, the director of the center for development and
9 disability at the university of New Mexico, the president of
10 the university of New Mexico hospital, the president of
11 Presbyterian hospital, the executive director of parents
12 reaching out, the executive director of the New Mexico medical
13 society, the superintendent of insurance, the executive
14 director of healthinsight New Mexico, the director of the
15 governor's commission on disability and the executive director
16 of special olympics New Mexico.