

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A TRAUMA
3 SYSTEM FUNDING TASK FORCE TO STUDY POTENTIAL SOURCES OF
4 SUSTAINABLE REVENUE FOR THE STATE'S TRAUMA SYSTEM AND MAKE
5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THEIR IMPLEMENTATION.

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7 WHEREAS, trauma is the main cause of death for persons
8 between one and forty-four years of age across the nation and
9 in New Mexico; and

10 WHEREAS, at the national level, trauma accounts for
11 thirty percent of all life years lost; and

12 WHEREAS, the economic burden of trauma nationwide is
13 more than six hundred seventy-one billion dollars
14 (\$671,000,000,000) annually; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2007, there were three trauma centers in
16 New Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, in 2017, there are twelve certified trauma
18 centers and four in development in New Mexico; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico has the second highest rate of
20 homicides and suicides combined; and

21 WHEREAS, New Mexico ranks as the eleventh worst state
22 for fall-related deaths, pedestrian fatalities and traffic
23 fatalities; and

24 WHEREAS, access to emergency care in New Mexico is
25 ranked second worst in the nation, with extremely low per

1 capita rates of plastic surgeons, neurosurgeons and
2 registered nurses; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2009, the department of health received five
4 million two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$5,250,000) for
5 the development of the trauma system in New Mexico; and

6 WHEREAS, the funding for the trauma system in New Mexico
7 was one million one hundred fifty-five thousand one hundred
8 forty-seven dollars (\$1,155,147) for 2017 for fourteen trauma
9 centers, including two under development; and

10 WHEREAS, the trauma system infrastructure state funding
11 has been dramatically decreasing since 2009, and no federal
12 funding has been received; and

13 WHEREAS, the trauma system must be expanded, and no
14 sustainable sources of funding exist;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary of health be requested
17 to convene a trauma system funding task force to study,
18 identify and make recommendations for sustainable sources of
19 funding separate from the general fund for the trauma system
20 in New Mexico; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the trauma system funding
22 task force be requested to identify the cost of continuing
23 operation of the trauma system in New Mexico; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the trauma system funding
25 task force be requested to identify the financial and

1 professional needs of trauma physicians to ensure provision
2 of specialized care for trauma victims statewide; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of health be
4 requested to invite the following experts to join the trauma
5 system funding task force:

6 A. two representatives from the department of
7 health;

8 B. at least two members representing trauma
9 physicians;

10 C. at least two nurses with trauma program
11 management experience;

12 D. one representative of the New Mexico nurses
13 association;

14 E. one representative of the New Mexico medical
15 society; and

16 F. one representative of the New Mexico hospital
17 association; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the trauma system funding
19 task force be requested to report its findings and
20 recommendations for identifying sustainable sources of
21 funding for the trauma system statewide to the interim
22 legislative health and human services committee and
23 legislative finance committee by October 1, 2017; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of health, the

1 New Mexico nurses association, the New Mexico medical society,
2 the New Mexico hospital association, the interim legislative
3 health and human services committee and the director of the
4 legislative finance committee.

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