

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 16

2 **53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Gerald Ortiz y Pino

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A TRAUMA SYSTEM  
12 FUNDING TASK FORCE TO STUDY POTENTIAL SOURCES OF SUSTAINABLE  
13 REVENUE FOR THE STATE'S TRAUMA SYSTEM AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS  
14 FOR THEIR IMPLEMENTATION.

15  
16 WHEREAS, trauma is the main cause of death for persons  
17 between one and forty-four years of age across the nation and  
18 in New Mexico; and

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

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

24 WHEREAS, in 2007, there were three trauma centers in New  
25 Mexico; and

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

3           WHEREAS, New Mexico has the second highest rate of  
4 homicides and suicides combined; and

5           WHEREAS, New Mexico ranks an the eleventh worst state for  
6 fall-related deaths, pedestrian fatalities and traffic  
7 fatalities; and

8           WHEREAS, access to emergency care in New Mexico is ranked  
9 second worst in the nation, with extremely low per capita rates  
10 of plastic surgeons, neurosurgeons and registered nurses; and

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

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

18           WHEREAS, the trauma system infrastructure state funding  
19 has been dramatically decreasing since 2009, and no federal  
20 funding has been received; and

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

23           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
24 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary of health be requested  
25 to convene a trauma system funding task force to study,

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1 identify and make recommendations for sustainable sources of  
2 funding separate from the general fund for the trauma system in  
3 New Mexico; and

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

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the trauma system funding task  
8 force be requested to identify the financial and professional  
9 needs of trauma physicians to ensure provision of specialized  
10 care for trauma victims statewide; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of health be  
12 requested to invite the following experts to join the trauma  
13 system funding task force:

14 A. two representatives from the department of  
15 health;

16 B. at least two members representing trauma  
17 physicians;

18 C. at least two nurses with trauma program  
19 management experience;

20 D. one representative of the New Mexico nurses  
21 association;

22 E. one representative of the New Mexico medical  
23 society; and

24 F. one representative of the New Mexico hospital  
25 association; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the trauma system funding task  
2 force be requested to report its findings and recommendations  
3 for identifying sustainable sources of funding for the trauma  
4 system statewide to the legislative health and human services  
5 committee and legislative finance committee by October 1, 2017;  
6 and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
8 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of health, the New  
9 Mexico nurses association, the New Mexico medical society, the  
10 New Mexico hospital association, the legislative health and  
11 human services committee and the director of the legislative  
12 finance committee.

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