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HOUSE BILL 56

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

Pamelya Herndon and Alan T. Martinez and Heather Berghmans
and Dayan Hochman-Vigil

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE; REQUIRING THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH CARE
AUTHORITY TO ENSURE THAT MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERVICES
PROVIDED AT BIRTH CENTERS IS THE SAME AS REIMBURSEMENT FOR
SERVICES PROVIDED AT HOSPITALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public Assistance Act is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] EQUITABLE REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERVICES
PROVIDED AT BIRTH CENTERS.--

A. For the purposes of this section:

(1) "birth center" means a freestanding birth
center licensed by the state for the primary purpose of
performing low-risk deliveries that is not a hospital, attached
to a hospital or in a hospital and where births are planned to

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1 occur away from the pregnant person's residence following a
2 low-risk pregnancy;

3 (2) "medicaid" means the medical assistance
4 program established pursuant to Title 19 of the federal Social
5 Security Act and regulations issued pursuant to that act; and

6 (3) "medicaid recipient" means a person whom
7 the department has determined to be eligible to receive
8 medicaid-related services.

9 B. The secretary shall adopt rules to ensure that
10 services provided to a medicaid recipient at a birth center are
11 reimbursed at the same rate as equivalent services provided at
12 a hospital."