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SENATE BILL 266

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

NANCY E. RODRIGUEZ

FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE REFORM COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE ACCESS; ESTABLISHING A GEOGRAPHIC  
ACCESS DATA SYSTEM; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

Section 1. SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the  
"Geographic Access Data System Act. "

Section 2. PURPOSE OF THE ACT.--The purpose of the  
Geographic Access Data System Act is to provide access to data  
and information to assist the commission, the legislature and  
other agencies and organizations in administering programs,  
planning, formulating policy and allocating resources to  
improve geographic access to health services.

Section 3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Geographic  
Access Data System Act:

A. "commission" means the New Mexico health policy

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1 commi ssi on;

2 B. "health information system" means the  
3 integrated, statewide data system specified in the Health  
4 Information System Act; and

5 C. "person" means individual or any other legal  
6 entity.

7 Section 4. DATA SYSTEM- - CREATION- - COMMISSION DUTIES. - -

8 A. The commission shall establish and operate the  
9 geographic access data system.

10 B. The commission shall collect data sufficient  
11 to:

12 (1) longitudinally monitor the geographic  
13 availability of health services;

14 (2) assess the contribution to, impact and  
15 cost-effectiveness of initiatives to improve geographic access  
16 to health care, including health professional education and  
17 training programs and initiatives to enhance access in rural  
18 and underserved areas;

19 (3) allow for allocation of resources based  
20 on the need for various health professionals in different  
21 geographic areas;

22 (4) enable the state to target resources and  
23 interventions to those geographic areas and health  
24 professionals most in need by the state;

25 (5) provide information to assist in the

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1 effective administration of programs to improve the supply and  
2 distribution of health professionals and services;

3 (6) project future needs for health  
4 professionals and services; and

5 (7) meet the information needs of the variety  
6 of public and private entities with interests in the supply  
7 and distribution of health professionals and geographic access  
8 to health services.

9 C. The geographic access data system shall be  
10 available in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of  
11 the Geographic Access Data System Act and shall provide a  
12 single point of access to data:

13 (1) maintained by the state related to health  
14 service capacity and distribution;

15 (2) pertaining to the supply and availability  
16 of health professionals; and

17 (3) regarding state initiatives to improve  
18 geographic access.

19 D. The commission shall:

20 (1) utilize data already maintained in other  
21 databases and by other entities, to the extent feasible and  
22 accessible to the commission;

23 (2) establish data definitions, formats and  
24 other information standards for the data maintained as part of  
25 the geographic access data system;

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1 (3) make available, at least annually, a  
2 report on the geographic availability of health services and  
3 the supply and distribution of health professionals;

4 (4) establish geographic access and capacity  
5 standards and methodologies to assess the relative needs of  
6 geographic service areas and for different health  
7 professionals;

8 (5) assess fees for special analysis, data  
9 requests and dissemination to assist in the operation and  
10 development of the geographic access data system; and

11 (6) identify and seek other sources of  
12 resources to support the geographic access data system

13 E. The commission shall promulgate regulations  
14 necessary to carry out the Geographic Access Data System Act,  
15 in accordance with state law.

16 F. The commission shall collect data in the most  
17 cost-effective manner.

18 Section 5. ADVISORY COMMITTEE. --

19 A. The commission shall establish an advisory  
20 committee representative of the data source entities using  
21 geographic access information, the health service industry and  
22 health professionals.

23 B. The advisory committee shall develop  
24 recommendations on:

25 (1) data needs and sources;

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- 1 (2) data collection procedures;
- 2 (3) data analysis, report formats and
- 3 information disseminated; and
- 4 (4) access to data maintained as part of the
- 5 geographic access data system.

6 C. The advisory committee shall review, no less  
7 than every three years, the need for existing data collected  
8 and maintained as part of the geographic access data system  
9 and the cost-effectiveness of maintaining the data.

10 Section 6. AGENCY COOPERATION. --

11 A. The department of health; the human services  
12 department; the commission on higher education; the various  
13 health professional licensing boards authorized in Chapter 61  
14 NMSA 1978; the university of New Mexico; New Mexico state  
15 university; and other state agencies in possession of data  
16 pertaining to the geographic supply and distribution of health  
17 professionals and health services, including health  
18 professional education and training programs, shall cooperate  
19 with the commission in carrying out the provisions of the  
20 Geographic Access Data System Act, including making data  
21 available, collecting survey data and participating in the  
22 geographic access data system.

23 B. Health professional education and training  
24 programs, either directly or through the commission on higher  
25 education, shall provide data, including but not limited to

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1 that regarding individuals trained in health professions.

2 C. Health profession licensing boards shall  
3 provide the commission upon request information, including but  
4 not limited to the following:

5 (1) basic data maintained as part of the  
6 licensing and relicensing procedure, including, as applicable,  
7 identification data such as name, license number, social  
8 security number, date of birth and gender; education and  
9 training institutions and locations; specialty certification;  
10 year of first licensure; type of license; status of license;  
11 and practice address; and

12 (2) responses to surveys provided by the  
13 commission to be completed as part of the licensing process by  
14 the health professionals regarding the characteristics of  
15 their current and future practice.

16 D. Initiatives funded or operated by the state to  
17 improve the supply of health professionals in rural and  
18 underserved areas shall provide the commission data, including  
19 but not limited to information sufficient to enable the  
20 immediate and long-term assessment of the impact of such  
21 programs, their cost-effectiveness and impact on geographic  
22 access in the state.

23 E. Upon making any request for data pursuant to  
24 the Geographic Access Data System Act, the commission shall  
25 take into consideration the cost of supplying such data and

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1 give reasonable notice and deadlines for compliance.

2 Section 7. ACCESS. --

3 A. Access to data in the geographic access data  
4 system shall be provided in accordance with regulations  
5 adopted by the commission pursuant to and to fulfill the  
6 purpose of the Geographic Access Data System Act.

7 B. Any data source may obtain access to data it  
8 has submitted to the geographic access data system.

9 C. Any person may obtain aggregate data.

10 D. Except as provided for in this section, any  
11 data collected is strictly confidential and shall not be a  
12 matter of public record or accessible to the public.

13 E. No data source shall be liable for damages to  
14 any person for having furnished information in accordance with  
15 the Geographic Access Data System Act.

16 Section 8. APPROPRIATION. -- Seventy-five thousand dollars  
17 (\$75,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the New  
18 Mexico health policy commission for expenditure in fiscal year  
19 1999 to pay salaries and benefits and other costs necessary to  
20 establish and maintain the geographic access data system and  
21 administer the provisions of the Geographic Access Data System  
22 Act. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the  
23 end of fiscal year 1999 shall revert to the general fund.

24 Section 9. EFFECTIVE DATE. -- The effective date of the  
25 provisions of this act is July 1, 1998.

1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
2 SECOND SESSION, 1998  
3  
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6 February 4, 1998  
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8 Mr. President:  
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10 Your COMMITTEES' COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred  
11

12 SENATE BILL 266  
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14 has had it under consideration and finds same to be GERMANE, in  
15 accordance with constitutional provisions, and thence referred to the  
16 PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.  
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19 Respectfully submitted,  
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25 \_\_\_\_\_  
Manny M. Aragon, Chairman



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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

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4  
5 February 13, 1998

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7 Mr. President:

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9 Your PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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11 SENATE BILL 266

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13 has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation  
14 that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the FINANCE COMMITTEE.  
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16 Respectfully submitted,

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22 Shannon Robinson, Chairman  
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Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 5 For 0 Against

Yes: 5

No: 0

Excused: Feldman, Garcia, Ingle, Rodarte

Absent: None

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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

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6 February 16, 1998

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8 Mr. President:

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10 Your FINANCE COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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12 SENATE BILL 266

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14 has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation  
15 that it DO PASS.

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18 Respectfully submitted,

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23 Ben D. Altamirano, Chairman  
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Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 6 For 0 Against

Yes: 6

No: None

Excused: Aragon, Campos, Carraro, Eisenstadt, Lyons

Absent: None

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