

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 74

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

INTRODUCED BY

TERRY T. MARQUARDT

A JOINT MEMORIAL

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AN AGREEMENT WITH A STATE DENTAL ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE DENTAL SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH PHYSICAL, MEDICAL AND MENTAL DISABILITIES.

WHEREAS, the New Mexico dental association is working to develop a donated dental services program through which volunteer dentists will provide comprehensive dental care for needy disabled, aged and medically limited individuals; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico dental association's 1997 survey found clear evidence of the need for expanded dental care for this target population; and

WHEREAS, the department of health, in cooperation with the human services department, has plans to establish a statewide coordinated network of oral health care providers to

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = del ete

1 assist with the availability of comprehensive, quality dental
2 care for persons with developmental disabilities; and

3 WHEREAS, the foundation of dentistry for the handicapped,
4 an affiliate of the American dental association, was
5 established twenty-five years ago to ensure availability of
6 oral health care for persons with physical, medical and mental
7 disabilities and has assisted more than twenty states in
8 establishing such programs;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health, with
11 assistance from the human services department, the national
12 foundation of dentistry for the handicapped and the New Mexico
13 dental association, develop a program to provide dental
14 services to New Mexico citizens with physical, medical and
15 mental disabilities; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
17 sent to the secretary of health for appropriate distribution.