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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 32
44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY
Jose R. Abeyta

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION TO MAKE EFFORTS
TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF NEW MEXICO DENTAL STUDENT POSITIONS
UNDER THE WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, access to dental services for vulnerable
populations of New Mexicans, including medicaid recipients, is
a serious and long-standing problem; and

WHEREAS, based on federal criteria twenty-two of our
thirty-three counties have a critical shortage of dentists,
with New Mexico ranking forty-eighth in the nation in the
ratio of dentists to population; and

WHEREAS, by the estimated number of dentists needed to
serve our population, the state is lacking one hundred sixty-
five dentists; and

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1 WHEREAS, having no in-state dental school, New Mexico is
2 a party to the western interstate commission for higher
3 education compact under which we pay for access to dental
4 school student placements out of state; and

5 WHEREAS, the number of New Mexico dental students
6 approved by the western interstate commission for higher
7 education in recent years has declined;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the commission on higher education do
10 everything possible to increase the number of positions for
11 New Mexico dental students in the western interstate
12 commission for higher education program in order to meet the
13 needs of the state; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher
15 education vigorously pursue increased availability of
16 positions for New Mexico dental students in institutions
17 outside the western interstate commission for higher education
18 compact; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher
20 education work with all of the state's post-secondary
21 educational institutions to identify and encourage the study
22 of dentistry by New Mexico students, especially those willing
23 to practice this profession in areas identified as underserved
24 by health professionals; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

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1 transmitted to the executive director of the commission on
2 higher education.

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1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

2 FIRST SESSION, 1999

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6 February 22, 1999

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8 Mr. Speaker:

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10 Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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12 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 32

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

16 Respectfully submitted,

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21 _____
22 Rick Miera, Chairman
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

HEC/HJM 32

Page 5

Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 12 For 0 Against

Yes: 12

Excused: Burpo, Knauer, Marquardt, Stapleton

Absent: None

J: \99BillSWP\HJ032

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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

1 HEC/HJM 32

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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

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March 16, 1999

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Mr. President:

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Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 32

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

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Respectfully submitted,

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Cynthia Nava, Chairman

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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

1 HEC/HJM 32

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Adopted _____ Not

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Adopted _____

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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date _____

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The roll call vote was 7 For 1 Against

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Yes: 7

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No: Adair

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Excused: Boitano, Gorham

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Absent: None

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