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HOUSE MEMORIAL 40  
**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999**  
INTRODUCED BY  
James Roger Madelena

A MEMORIAL  
REQUESTING THAT CONGRESS RESTORE AND FULLY FUND THE COMMUNITY  
HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE.

WHEREAS, the community health representative program is the largest community-based work force within the Indian health service with more than one thousand five hundred community health representatives in more than two hundred fifty tribes in more than four hundred rural communities; and

WHEREAS, the community health representative program marks the first time in history that the tribes have managed their own health programs, setting their own priorities through contractual arrangements with the Indian health service; and

WHEREAS, the community health representative program is a prime example of Indian self-determination, embodying all the

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1 precepts and managerial goals of the principle of self-  
2 determination; and

3 WHEREAS, the goal of the community health representative  
4 program is to provide health services necessary to elevate the  
5 health of American Indians and native Alaskans to the highest  
6 possible level and to maximize the participation of tribes in  
7 planning and managing health services; and

8 WHEREAS, the focus of the program is the active  
9 involvement of community members in preventive medicine and  
10 the strengthening of tribal management and operation of health  
11 programs; and

12 WHEREAS, health care para-professionals help make the  
13 program more accessible and comprehensive to Indian tribal  
14 members and native Alaskans; and

15 WHEREAS, the community health representative program has  
16 been an important component in the nineteen percent rise of  
17 the average life expectancy since 1955, to 69.1 years for  
18 males and 77.5 years for females; and

19 WHEREAS, mortality rates among Indians with tuberculosis  
20 has decreased by ninety-six percent while maternal mortality  
21 has decreased by ninety-one percent and the infant mortality  
22 rate has decreased by eighty-five percent; and

23 WHEREAS, the community health representative program  
24 budget has been reduced by five million dollars (\$5,000,000)  
25 in fiscal year 2000;



1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999  
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6 March 11, 1999  
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8 Mr. Speaker:  
9

10 Your APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, to  
11 whom has been referred  
12

13 HOUSE MEMORIAL 40  
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15 has had it under consideration and reports same with  
16 recommendation that it DO PASS.

17 Respectfully submitted,  
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21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22 Max Coll, Chairman  
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1 FORTY- FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999

3 Page 5

4 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

5  
6 (Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

7  
8 Date \_\_\_\_\_

9  
10 The roll call vote was 11 For 0 Against

11 Yes: 11

12 Excused: Buffett, MH Garcia, Pearce, Saavedra, Salazar, Varela

13 Absent: None

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15 J: \99BillSWP\hm040

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