

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO
3 EVALUATE THE EFFICACY OF IMPLEMENTING OVERDOSE PREVENTION
4 CENTERS IN THE STATE AND TO DETERMINE THE NECESSARY STATUTORY
5 AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK NEEDED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT
6 OVERDOSE PREVENTION CENTERS.

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8 WHEREAS, for the last two decades, New Mexico has had
9 one of the highest drug overdose death rates in the nation;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, most states in the nation observed a decrease
12 in drug overdose deaths beginning in 2024; and

13 WHEREAS, following a slight decrease in drug overdose
14 deaths in 2024, New Mexico is one of only three states that
15 experienced an increase in drug overdose deaths in 2025, with
16 a four and one-tenth percent increase in drug overdose deaths
17 over the previous year; and

18 WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths continue to
19 disproportionately impact communities of color, with rates
20 rising faster among Native American and Black New Mexico
21 residents; and

22 WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths can be prevented through
23 various harm reduction strategies; and

24 WHEREAS, the establishment of overdose prevention
25 centers in other jurisdictions has been a particularly

1 effective harm reduction strategy; and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico has not yet adopted the use of
3 overdose prevention centers; and

4 WHEREAS, New Mexico needs to look to new harm reduction
5 strategies to reverse the current trend of increasing
6 overdose deaths;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
8 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health be
9 requested to conduct a study to evaluate the efficacy of
10 implementing overdose prevention centers in the state and to
11 determine the necessary statutory and regulatory framework to
12 develop and implement overdose prevention centers; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health
14 be requested to provide a report summarizing the conclusions
15 of the study to the legislative health and human services
16 committee and the legislative finance committee by
17 November 1, 2026; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the secretary of health and the chairs and vice
20 chairs of the legislative health and human services committee
21 and the legislative finance committee. _____

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