

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 21

2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO  
12 EVALUATE THE EFFICACY OF IMPLEMENTING OVERDOSE PREVENTION  
13 CENTERS IN THE STATE AND TO DETERMINE THE NECESSARY STATUTORY  
14 AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK NEEDED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT  
15 OVERDOSE PREVENTION CENTERS.

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

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

21 WHEREAS, following a slight decrease in drug overdose  
22 deaths in 2024, New Mexico is one of only three states that  
23 experienced an increase in drug overdose deaths in 2025, with a  
24 four and one-tenth percent increase in drug overdose deaths  
25 over the previous year; and

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1           WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths continue to  
2 disproportionately impact communities of color, with rates  
3 rising faster among Native American and Black New Mexico  
4 residents; and

5           WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths can be prevented through  
6 various harm reduction strategies; and

7           WHEREAS, the establishment of overdose prevention centers  
8 in other jurisdictions has been a particularly effective harm  
9 reduction strategy; and

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

12          WHEREAS, New Mexico needs to look to new harm reduction  
13 strategies to reverse the current trend of increasing overdose  
14 deaths;

15          NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
16 OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health be requested to  
17 conduct a study to evaluate the efficacy of implementing  
18 overdose prevention centers in the state and to determine the  
19 necessary statutory and regulatory framework to develop and  
20 implement overdose prevention centers; and

21          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health be  
22 requested to provide a report summarizing the conclusions of  
23 the study to the legislative health and human services  
24 committee and the legislative finance committee by November 1,  
25 2026; and

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1                   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
2 transmitted to the secretary of health and the chairs and vice  
3 chairs of the legislative health and human services committee  
4 and the legislative finance committee.

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