

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT A
3 FISCAL ANALYSIS OF A HEALTH SECURITY PLAN AND REPORT ITS
4 FINDINGS TO THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
5 COMMITTEE.

6
7 WHEREAS, while the number of uninsured residents in New
8 Mexico has decreased, they are still experiencing increases
9 in health care premiums, high deductibles, rising out-of-
10 pocket expenses and increased pharmaceutical drug costs; and

11 WHEREAS, rising health care costs adversely affect state
12 and local government budgets, as well as family budgets; and

13 WHEREAS, uncertainty regarding health insurance coverage
14 at the federal level compels states to explore innovative
15 opportunities and solutions to provide greater access to
16 affordable high-quality health coverage to their residents;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, studies completed in 1994 and 2007 by
19 independent policy research firms examined the possible
20 benefits of covering most or all residents under one health
21 risk pool; and

22 WHEREAS, this approach could result in greater economies
23 of scale, substantially contain costs, reduce administrative
24 complexity and uncompensated care and create a more stable
25 health care system that benefits all New Mexico residents;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, the provisions of House Bill 295 and Senate
3 Bill 279, introduced during the first session of the fifty-
4 fourth legislature, outline an innovative health security
5 plan based on decades of efforts to provide for statewide
6 comprehensive health care coverage regardless of age,
7 employment or health status; and

8 WHEREAS, the health security plan was first conceived
9 twenty-seven years ago; and

10 WHEREAS, over the last several years, legislation has
11 been sponsored to enact a health security plan; and

12 WHEREAS, proposals for a health security plan have been
13 developed over many years with input from diverse sectors
14 from all over the state; and

15 WHEREAS, over the years, one hundred seventy New Mexico
16 organizations and thirty-five cities and counties
17 representing a broad bipartisan cross-section of New Mexicans
18 from all parts of the state have endorsed the creation of a
19 health security plan; and

20 WHEREAS, before creating a health security plan, a
21 thorough fiscal analysis is needed to determine its fiscal
22 viability;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the
25 legislative finance committee be requested to work with

1 contractors or consultants as needed to conduct a fiscal
2 analysis of the health security plan as provided for in House
3 Bill 295 and Senate Bill 279 of the first session of the
4 fifty-fourth legislature; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of superintendent
6 of insurance, the human services department, the department
7 of health and other state agencies and commissions; the New
8 Mexico health insurance exchange; and New Mexico health
9 insurers and providers be requested to provide health care
10 cost and coverage information to the legislative finance
11 committee as needed; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative finance
13 committee be requested to ensure that the collection of the
14 data needed to conduct its fiscal analysis be coordinated
15 with the human services department and other agencies and
16 commissions to prevent duplication of effort; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative finance
18 committee be requested to report the results of its analysis
19 to the legislative health and human services committee no
20 later than July 31, 2021; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative
23 council, the speaker of the house of representatives, the
24 chair and vice chair of the legislative finance committee,
25 the superintendent of insurance, the secretary of human

1 services, the secretary of health and the board of directors
2 of the New Mexico health insurance exchange.

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