

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 19

2 **44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 200**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE TWENTY-THIRD NEW MEXICO FIRST TOWN
12 HALL IN ITS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND ACCESSIBILITY
13 OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO ALL NEW MEXICANS.
14

15 WHEREAS, the health care system in New Mexico can
16 benefit from increased attention and cooperation from the
17 many private, public and community providers, consumers and
18 specialized agencies whose interests affect our health care;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, New Mexico first was created by United States
21 Senators Jeff Bingaman and Pete V. Domenici in 1986, and
22 since the 1990 New Mexico first town hall focused on health,
23 New Mexico first has taken a growing interest in influencing
24 the progress of health care policies in our state; and
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WHEREAS, the 1990 New Mexico first town hall on health
care was strongly influential in the creation of the New
Mexico health policy commission, an agency that plays an

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1 increasing role in improving the state's health systems; and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico first also played a major role in
3 developing policy leading to expanded prenatal care for women
4 living below one hundred eighty-five percent of the federal
5 poverty level; and

6 WHEREAS, the 1999 New Mexico first town hall health care
7 report charged its health care implementation team with many
8 responsibilities, including coordinating with community
9 health councils to define basic health care services; and

10 WHEREAS, the charge also includes ensuring clear
11 definition of issues impeding delivery of basic services in
12 both rural and urban settings and working with all partners
13 necessary to improve access by those uninsured and
14 underinsured; and

15 WHEREAS, other responsibilities of the health care
16 implementation team include increasing the number of New
17 Mexicans who have health insurance and facilitating
18 governmental policy and regulation changes toward an improved
19 statewide health care delivery system; and

20 WHEREAS, the health care implementation team is also
21 directed to help develop the financing aspects of a basic
22 health care plan; and

23 WHEREAS, the health care implementation team's charge
24 also includes working with the United States department of
25 agriculture to feed the eighteen percent of New Mexicans
identified as hungry; and

WHEREAS, another important charge is to identify

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1 nonpartisan leaders to champion the recommendations of the
2 New Mexico first town hall;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the health care goals of the twenty-
5 third New Mexico first town hall be endorsed and that its
6 health care implementation team be encouraged to pursue its
7 charge with diligence and vigor toward the goal of improving
8 the health care of all New Mexicans; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature request the
10 New Mexico first town hall health care implementation team to
11 present, prior to each regular session of the legislature, a
12 report of its recommendations and progress toward
13 implementation of its goals; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature express its
15 gratitude to the hundreds of dedicated New Mexicans who
16 participate in New Mexico first town hall activities that
17 continually provide this body with much needed information,
18 direction and support; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 sent to New Mexico first.