RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE; PROVIDING OPTIONS FOR SMALL EMPLOYERS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO VOLUNTARY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE: ENACTING A SECTION OF THE NMSA 1978.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Health Insurance Portability Act is enacted to read:

"CONSOLIDATED PURCHASING.--Two or more small employers may create or enter into an association, cooperative or mutual alliance to purchase health care benefits for their eligible employees and the employees' dependents pursuant to the Health Care Purchasing Act. An association, cooperative or mutual alliance of small employers may submit a request for proposal for and purchase of health care benefits as part of the consolidated purchasing process pursuant to the Health Care Purchasing Act."