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## 46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003 INTRODUCED BY

Ray Begaye

## AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE; REQUIRING COVERAGE FOR MEDICAL DIETS REQUIRED TO CONTROL INBORN ERRORS OF METABOLISM; ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978.

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

Section 1. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 22 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] COVERAGE FOR MEDICAL DIETS FOR INBORN ERRORS OF METABOLISM --

As of July 1, 2003, each individual and group health insurance policy, health care plan, certificate of health insurance and managed health care plan delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, extended or modified in this state shall provide coverage for the treatment of inborn errors of metabolism that involve amino acid, carbohydrate and fat

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metabolism and for which medically standard methods of diagnosis, treatment and monitoring exist.

- B. Coverage shall include expenses of diagnosing, monitoring and controlling disorders by nutritional and medical assessment, including clinical services, biochemical analysis, medical supplies, prescription drugs, corrective lenses for conditions related to the inborn error of metabolism, nutritional management and medical foods used in treatment to compensate for the metabolic abnormality and to maintain adequate nutritional status.
- C. Services required to be covered pursuant to this section are subject to the terms and conditions of the applicable individual or group policy or plan that establishes durational limits, dollar limits, deductibles and co-payments as long as the terms are not less favorable than for physical illness generally.
  - D. As used in this section:
- (1) "medical foods" means nutritional substances in any form that are:
- (a) formulated to be consumed or administered internally under the supervision of a physician;
- (b) specifically processed or formulated to be distinct in one or more nutrients present in natural food;
  - (c) intended for the medical and

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nutritional management of patients with limited capacity to		
metabolize ordinary foodstuffs or certain nutrients contained		
in ordinary foodstuffs or who have other specific nutrient		
requirements as established by medical evaluation; and		
(d) essential to optimize growth, health		
and matabalia hamaastasis, and		

(2) "treatment" means medical services
provided by licensed health care professionals, including
physicians, dieticians and nutritionists, with specific
training in managing patients diagnosed with inborn errors of
metabolism."

Section 2. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 46 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] COVERAGE FOR MEDICAL DIETS FOR INBORN
ERRORS OF METABOLISM -- As of July 1, 2003, each health
maintenance organization that delivers or issues for delivery
in the state an individual or group contract shall provide
coverage for the treatment of inborn errors of metabolism as
set forth in Chapter 59A, Article 22 NMSA 1978."

Section 3. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 47 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] COVERAGE FOR MEDICAL DIETS FOR INBORN
ERRORS OF METABOLISM -- As of July 1, 2003, subscriber contracts
of a health care plan shall also be subject to coverage for
medical diets for inborn errors of metabolism as required of
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