

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 10

2 48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO STUDY THE
12 FEASIBILITY AND COST OF EXPANDING THE TIME OF OPERATION OF
13 STUDENT HEALTH CLINICS AT PUBLIC POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL
14 INSTITUTIONS AND OF COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THOSE
15 CLINICS AND FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS.

16
17 WHEREAS, most students at public post-secondary
18 educational institutions receive health care at student health
19 clinics established by those institutions and do not have the
20 resources to seek alternative care; and

21 WHEREAS, public post-secondary educational institution
22 student health clinics may be open for only limited hours
23 during the day and may not be open year-round; and

24 WHEREAS, at times when student health clinics are not
25 open, students may not seek alternative care, leading to an

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1 injury or illness becoming more difficult and costly to treat,
2 or they may seek care at emergency rooms, where the care is
3 expensive and may result in public reimbursement for the care;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, federally qualified health centers, as recognized
6 by the health resources and services administration of the
7 United States department of health and human services, are
8 located in many parts of New Mexico where public post-secondary
9 educational institutions are also located; and

10 WHEREAS, these federally recognized health centers provide
11 comprehensive health care services and charge fees adjusted to
12 a patient's ability to pay;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the higher education department be
15 requested to study the feasibility and cost of keeping student
16 health clinics at public post-secondary educational
17 institutions open year-round and expanding their hours of
18 operation; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the higher education
20 department be requested to also study the feasibility and cost
21 of cooperative arrangements between student health clinics and
22 federally qualified health centers that would encourage
23 students to seek services at those health centers when student
24 health clinics are closed; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the higher education

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1 department report its findings to the legislative education
2 study committee and the interim legislative health and human
3 services committee no later than November 1, 2008; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the chairs of the legislative education study
6 committee and the interim legislative health and human services
7 committee and to the secretary of higher education.

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