

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 2

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

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FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE PRIVATE MANAGED CARE PLANS OPERATING IN THE
STATE TO ADOPT THE MEDICAL HOME MODEL OF CARE.

WHEREAS, the medical home model of care is an integrated
care management model that emphasizes primary medical care that
is designed to be continuous, comprehensive, coordinated,
accessible, compassionate and culturally appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the *Journal of the American Medical Association*
reports that a broad coalition of health care stakeholders,
including the American medical association, all of the major
national health plans, most of the Fortune 500 companies,
consumer organizations and labor unions and a total of
seventeen medical specialty societies, have endorsed the
medical home model as providing high-quality care at a lower
overall cost; and

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1 WHEREAS, through the integrated care offered in the
2 medical home, patients are reported to receive the type of care
3 that will timely address health conditions; and

4 WHEREAS, by emphasizing wellness and prevention, the
5 medical home model of care is reported to produce greater
6 overall patient well-being; and

7 WHEREAS, the medical home may support communities' social
8 and economic development by contributing to better health among
9 community members; and

10 WHEREAS, the world health organization has taken the
11 position that a state of complete physical, mental and social
12 well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity,
13 is a fundamental human right and that the attainment of the
14 highest possible level of health is a most important worldwide
15 social goal; and

16 WHEREAS, the idea behind managed care is not just to
17 provide health care services, but to manage them in terms of
18 cost and quality so that patients whose care is managed are
19 kept healthy and costs are kept low; and

20 WHEREAS, the medical home model presents some challenges
21 for billing within many private managed care plans, in that
22 providers cannot always bill for the work they do in
23 coordinating care; and

24 WHEREAS, some insurers and managed care organizations have
25 failed to recognize the potential of medical homes to create

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1 greater financial outcomes because the medical home model
2 represents an early investment of human and material capital in
3 order to maintain health and prevent illness that may be lost
4 when individuals in whom these investments are made disenroll
5 from a plan; and

6 WHEREAS, the investment of human and material capital into
7 the medical home model should be recognized as providing an
8 overall improvement in a community's health, which will benefit
9 all managed care organizations within a market where medical
10 homes are used;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that managed care organizations operating
13 in the state be requested to use the medical home model of care
14 for their enrollees in order to promote better patient health
15 and greater well-being while recognizing that investment in the
16 medical home will eventually reap greater financial rewards by
17 all managed care organizations operating within a community;
18 and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the governor, the superintendent of insurance,
21 the chair and vice chair of the legislative finance committee
22 and the chief operating officers of the managed care
23 organizations operating in the state.