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HOUSE MEMORIAL 20

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012**

INTRODUCED BY

Danice Picraux

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES TO  
CONVENE A NEW MEXICO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE TASK FORCE.

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a progressive, fatal  
disease of the brain that destroys mental and physical  
functions; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is not a part of the normal  
aging process; and

WHEREAS, there is no known cure for Alzheimer's disease;  
and

WHEREAS, every sixty-nine seconds, someone in America  
develops Alzheimer's disease; and

WHEREAS, an estimated five million four hundred thousand  
Americans now live with Alzheimer's disease; and

WHEREAS, it has been estimated that by mid-century,

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1 someone will develop Alzheimer's disease every thirty-three  
2 seconds; and

3 WHEREAS, data indicate that Hispanics are about one and  
4 one-half times as likely to have Alzheimer's disease or other  
5 dementia as older non-Hispanic whites; and

6 WHEREAS, by the fall of 2011, thirty states and the  
7 District of Columbia had developed or were in the process of  
8 developing state plans in response to the prevalence of  
9 Alzheimer's disease; and

10 WHEREAS, between 2010 and 2025, New Mexico is projected to  
11 experience a fifty-nine percent growth rate of people with this  
12 devastating disease; and

13 WHEREAS, New Mexico will soon have forty thousand  
14 residents diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary  
17 of aging and long-term services be requested to convene a New  
18 Mexico Alzheimer's disease task force to assess the impact of  
19 and make policy recommendations regarding Alzheimer's disease  
20 in the state; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of  
22 the following members:

23 A. the secretary of health or the secretary's  
24 designee;

25 B. the secretary of veterans' services or the

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1 secretary's designee;

2 C. the secretary of human services or the  
3 secretary's designee;

4 D. the secretary of Indian affairs or the  
5 secretary's designee;

6 E. one individual living with Alzheimer's disease,  
7 appointed by the governor;

8 F. one individual who serves as a caregiver to an  
9 individual living with Alzheimer's disease, appointed by the  
10 governor;

11 G. one representative of the nursing facility  
12 industry, appointed by the New Mexico health care association;

13 H. one representative of the assisted living  
14 industry, appointed by the assisted living services  
15 organization;

16 I. one representative of the adult day care  
17 services industry, appointed by the New Mexico association of  
18 adult day care;

19 J. one representative of the hospice and home  
20 health care industry, appointed by the New Mexico association  
21 for home and hospice care;

22 K. one representative of the medical care provider  
23 community, appointed by the director of the university of New  
24 Mexico geriatric education center;

25 L. one individual who engages in research related

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1 to Alzheimer's disease, appointed by the Alzheimer's  
2 association;

3 M. one representative of AARP, appointed by AARP;

4 N. one representative of the department of health's  
5 office of primary care and rural health, appointed by the  
6 director of the office of primary care and rural health;

7 O. one representative of the developmental  
8 disabilities planning council, appointed by the developmental  
9 disabilities planning council;

10 P. one representative of the Alzheimer's  
11 association, appointed by the Alzheimer's association;

12 Q. the director of the medical assistance division  
13 of the human services department or the director's designee;

14 R. one representative from each of the four area  
15 agencies on aging, appointed by the bureau chief of the senior  
16 services bureau of the aging and long-term services department;

17 S. one representative of the program for all-  
18 inclusive care for the elderly in New Mexico, appointed by  
19 total community care of New Mexico; and

20 T. one representative representing law enforcement,  
21 appointed by the secretary of public safety; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include an  
23 examination of the following matters in its assessments and  
24 recommendations:

25 A. trends and needs among the population of

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1 individuals living with Alzheimer's disease in the state,  
2 including the changing population living with dementia; the  
3 state's role in long-term care; family caregiver support; and  
4 the available assistance to individuals living with Alzheimer's  
5 disease and with developmental disabilities;

6 B. the type, cost and availability of services for  
7 individuals living with dementia;

8 C. dementia-specific training requirements for  
9 those working with individuals living with dementia;

10 D. the quality care measures for providers who  
11 deliver services to individuals living with Alzheimer's  
12 disease;

13 E. the capacity of public safety and law  
14 enforcement to respond to individuals living with Alzheimer's  
15 disease;

16 F. the availability of home- and community-based  
17 resources for individuals living with Alzheimer's disease;

18 G. the availability of respite care to assist  
19 family members who are caring for individuals living with  
20 Alzheimer's disease;

21 H. an inventory of long-term care dementia care  
22 units;

23 I. the adequacy and appropriateness of geriatric-  
24 psychiatric units for persons living with behavior disorders  
25 associated with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia;

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1           J. assisted living options for individuals living  
2 with dementia;

3           K. state support of Alzheimer's disease research  
4 through New Mexico universities and other resources; and

5           L. state policies or resources that are needed,  
6 including directions for the provision of clear and coordinated  
7 services and supports to individuals and families living with  
8 Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, as well as  
9 strategies to address any identified gaps in services; and

10          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of aging and  
11 long-term services or the secretary's designee be requested to  
12 convene the task force by April 30, 2012; and

13          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aging and long-term  
14 services department be requested to provide the facilities and  
15 administrative support that are necessary for the task force's  
16 work; and

17          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
18 hold public meetings and use technology, such as webcasting, to  
19 gather feedback and recommendations from individuals and  
20 families affected by Alzheimer's disease and the general  
21 public; and

22          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force  
23 be requested to serve without compensation, except any per diem  
24 or expense reimbursement to which they are individually  
25 entitled as members of their respective constituent

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1 organizations; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to  
3 submit by November 1, 2013 a report of its findings and date-  
4 specific recommendations to the governor and to the legislative  
5 health and human services committee; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
7 transmitted to each official or organization being requested to  
8 serve on or select a member of the task force and to the chair  
9 and vice chair of the legislative health and human services  
10 committee.

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