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HOUSE MEMORIAL 52

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

INTRODUCED BY

Miguel P. Garcia

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE NEW MEXICO OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE REFORM REPORT TO AND CONSULT WITH THE LEGISLATURE ABOUT EXPENDITURES AND ACTIVITIES PURSUANT TO THE THIRTY-FOUR-MILLION-TWO-HUNDRED-THOUSAND-DOLLAR (\$34,200,000) FEDERAL HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE ESTABLISHMENT GRANT.

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2010, the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, also known as the Affordable Care Act, was signed into law; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act requires each state to set up a health insurance exchange by 2014; and

WHEREAS, states must demonstrate readiness to operate a health insurance exchange by January 1, 2013 or, as provided for in the Affordable Care Act, the federal government will establish a health insurance exchange for the state; and

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1 WHEREAS, in November 2011, the New Mexico office of health
2 care reform applied for a level-one health insurance exchange
3 establishment grant from the United States department of health
4 and human services to establish a health insurance exchange in
5 New Mexico; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States department of health and human
7 services awarded New Mexico a level-one health insurance
8 exchange establishment grant in the amount of approximately
9 thirty-four million two hundred thousand dollars (\$34,200,000)
10 for a one-year period through November 29, 2012; and

11 WHEREAS, the purposes of the establishment grant are to
12 develop and implement a multi-year exchange business and
13 operation plan, amend state laws and develop capacity in core
14 areas identified by the United States department of health and
15 human services that are necessary to achieve health insurance
16 exchange certification by January 2013; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States department of health and human
18 services has issued guidance stating that an important
19 milestone toward implementing a health insurance exchange is to
20 establish a governance structure in consultation with
21 stakeholders; and

22 WHEREAS, the New Mexico legislature must enact legislation
23 to establish the necessary legal authority for a health
24 insurance exchange; and

25 WHEREAS, it is important that the legislature be regularly

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1 informed and consulted with about the state's activities under
2 the establishment grant;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
4 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
5 office of health care reform be requested to provide periodic
6 reports throughout calendar year 2012 on expenditures made and
7 activities performed pursuant to the health insurance exchange
8 establishment grant to the interim legislative health and human
9 services committee, the legislative finance committee and any
10 other legislative committee or work group designated to oversee
11 health care reform implementation efforts in New Mexico; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico office of
13 health care reform be requested to inform and consult with the
14 interim legislative health and human services committee and any
15 other legislative committee or work group designated to oversee
16 health care reform implementation efforts in the state about
17 the office's activities to fulfill the federal health insurance
18 exchange establishment grant obligations, which include
19 developing the state's capacity in the following core areas
20 identified by the United States department of health and human
21 services:

- 22 A. background research;
- 23 B. stakeholder consultation;
- 24 C. legislative and regulatory action;
- 25 D. governance;

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- 1 E. program integration;
- 2 F. exchange information technology systems;
- 3 G. financial management;
- 4 H. oversight and program activity;
- 5 I. health insurance market reforms;
- 6 J. assistance to consumers and small businesses,
- 7 coverage appeals and complaints; and
- 8 K. the business operations of the exchange; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the governor and the director of the New Mexico
11 office of health care reform.