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HOUSE MEMORIAL 17

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

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

A MEMORIAL

PROCLAIMING JANUARY 24, 2012 AS "MEDICAID APPRECIATION DAY" IN
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, medicaid is the foundation for New Mexico's
health care system; and

WHEREAS, medicaid provides a foundation for New Mexico's
economy, bringing over two billion six hundred million dollars
(\$2,600,000,000) in federal funds each year to New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, medicaid funding sustains more than fifty
thousand jobs in the state, mostly in the private health care
sector; and

WHEREAS, medicaid is a lifeline, providing health care for
one-fourth of New Mexicans, serving more than five hundred
fifty thousand people; and

WHEREAS, medicaid helps reduce private insurance rates by

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1 providing health care coverage to uninsured New Mexicans; and

2 WHEREAS, the majority of medicaid funds come from federal
3 dollars, making it the most economical way to provide health
4 care to New Mexicans; and

5 WHEREAS, medicaid is the medical insurance used by the
6 most vulnerable members of New Mexico's population, such as
7 low-income children, seniors, people living with disabilities,
8 pregnant women and extremely poor adults; and

9 WHEREAS, all New Mexicans benefit when medicaid provides
10 the means for its participants to stay healthy and lead
11 productive lives; and

12 WHEREAS, each New Mexico county relies upon medicaid to
13 meet its obligation to serve the health care needs of very-low-
14 income residents; and

15 WHEREAS, medicaid is the most cost-effective means by
16 which New Mexico can ensure provision of critical health care
17 to New Mexicans who cannot afford to buy insurance; and

18 WHEREAS, maintaining medicaid services at no cost to
19 recipients best serves the health care needs of those
20 recipients and exhibits great economic wisdom; and

21 WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of New Mexico's voters
22 believe that medicaid is an important health care program and
23 that its services and funding should not be cut; and

24 WHEREAS, the people of the state of New Mexico want and
25 need a medicaid program that is robustly and adequately funded,

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1 enrolls all eligible New Mexicans, includes a full range of
2 health care coverage and recognizes that medicaid participants
3 need and want a program that is fully accessible to them
4 without barriers imposed by provider shortages or economic
5 hardship;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
7 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 24,
8 2012 be recognized as "Medicaid Appreciation Day" in the house
9 of representatives; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senate be requested to
11 join the house of representatives in celebrating medicaid
12 appreciation day and support a robust and adequately funded
13 medicaid program; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Governor Martinez and her
15 cabinet be requested to support a medicaid program that
16 preserves all medicaid services with no increased costs for
17 participants and ensures that all eligible New Mexicans are
18 enrolled; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor be requested to
20 join the house of representatives in funding the medicaid
21 program adequately to ensure its ongoing success; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the governor, the president pro tempore of the
24 senate and the secretary of human services.

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