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AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF  
PAYMENTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 27-5-16 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965,  
Chapter 234, Section 16, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-5-16. DEPARTMENT--PAYMENTS--COOPERATION.--

A. The department shall not decrease the amount of  
any assistance payments made to the hospitals or health care  
providers of this state pursuant to law because of any  
financial reimbursement made to ambulance services, hospitals  
or health care providers for indigent or medicaid eligible  
patients as provided in the Indigent Hospital and County  
Health Care Act.

B. The department shall cooperate with each board  
in furnishing information or assisting in the investigation  
of any person to determine whether the person meets the  
qualifications of an indigent patient as defined in the  
Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act.

C. The department shall ensure that the sole  
community provider payment and the reimbursement to hospitals  
made under the state medicaid program do not exceed what would  
have been paid for under medicare payment principles. In the  
event the sole community provider payment and medicaid

1 reimbursement to hospitals would exceed medicare payment  
2 principles, the department shall reduce the sole community  
3 provider payment prior to making any reduction in  
4 reimbursement to hospitals made under the state medicaid  
5 program; provided, however, that additional payments may be  
6 made pursuant to waiver agreement, rule, law or state plan  
7 amendment providing for supplemental medicaid payments to  
8 hospitals." \_\_\_\_\_

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