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SENATE MEMORIAL 76

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY TO
CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE POTENTIAL SUSTAINABLE
FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE NEW MEXICO POISON AND DRUG INFORMATION
CENTER AND TO REPORT FINDINGS.

WHEREAS, New Mexico has long realized the importance of
understanding issues surrounding morbidity and mortality caused
by poisons and drugs; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information center
is a public service program of the university of New Mexico
health sciences center and is affiliated with the college of
pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information center
serves as a resource for the entire state; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information center
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1 plays a significant role in reducing morbidity and mortality
2 associated with accidental ingestion and overdose of poison and
3 drugs; and

4 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information center
5 is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to the
6 public and to health professionals, with expert staff making
7 treatment recommendations during potential poisonings and
8 assisting emergency personnel during hazardous material
9 incidents; and

10 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information center
11 takes on a role that no other group can fulfill; and

12 WHEREAS, during fiscal year 2014, the center received
13 twenty-seven thousand nine hundred thirty-five poison "help"
14 calls; and

15 WHEREAS, in many cases, the center helps prevent costly
16 trips to the emergency department by providing life-saving
17 treatment information over the phone; and

18 WHEREAS, the New Mexico poison and drug information center
19 is funded as a special project through the New Mexico
20 legislature, and a source of sustainable funding for the center
21 never has been clearly identified; and

22 WHEREAS, a study of potential sustainable funding sources
23 for the New Mexico poison and drug information center would
24 assist the center in planning;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE

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1 OF NEW MEXICO that the university of New Mexico college of
2 pharmacy be requested to convene a working group to study
3 possible options to address sustainable funding for the New
4 Mexico poison and drug information center; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include
6 representatives of the Bernalillo county department of
7 substance abuse programs, the Albuquerque police department,
8 Indian health service, the safe kids coalition, the
9 superintendent of insurance, blue cross blue shield of New
10 Mexico, united healthcare, the New Mexico pharmacist
11 association, the New Mexico society of health systems
12 pharmacists, the New Mexico chapter of the American college of
13 emergency physicians, the New Mexico emergency medical
14 technicians association, the New Mexico medical society, the
15 New Mexico emergency nurses association, the New Mexico chapter
16 of the association of public-safety communications officials,
17 the New Mexico chapter of the national emergency number
18 association and the united way of central New Mexico; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group report its
20 findings and recommendations of possible sustainable funding
21 sources to the appropriate interim committee and the
22 legislative finance committee by November 1, 2015; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the governor, the legislative finance committee
25 and the director of the university of New Mexico college of

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pharmacy.