

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO CENTER FOR
3 DEVELOPMENT AND DISABILITY TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP
4 AN ACTION PLAN TO MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUTH AND ADULTS IN
5 NEW MEXICO WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER.

6
7 WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder is the name for a
8 group of serious neurodevelopmental disorders that impair a
9 person's ability to communicate and interact with others; and

10 WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder also includes
11 restricted, repetitive behaviors, interests and activities,
12 and these issues cause significant impairment in social,
13 occupational and other areas of functioning; and

14 WHEREAS, the legislature has partnered with state
15 agencies and groups to make significant progress in
16 developing and implementing programs for children with autism
17 spectrum disorder; and

18 WHEREAS, there are not yet specific programs in
19 New Mexico to meet the needs of adults with autism spectrum
20 disorder; and

21 WHEREAS, there is a need for state agencies and other
22 interested parties to study ways to develop and implement
23 programs for older youth and adults with autism spectrum
24 disorder;

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

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the autism programs at the
2 university of New Mexico center for development and
3 disability be requested to convene a task force to study ways
4 to develop and implement programs for older youth and adults
5 with autism spectrum disorder; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested
7 to develop an action plan to determine funding priorities for
8 youth and adults with autism spectrum disorder that uses
9 applied behavioral analysis and other evidence-based
10 interventions that result in:

11 A. a new medicaid behavioral health benefit
12 specifically for adults with autism spectrum disorder;

13 B. a plan for developing in-state resources and
14 procedures for youth with autism spectrum disorder;

15 C. development of expedited developmental
16 disabilities waiver criteria for youth and adults discharging
17 from residential treatment; and

18 D. development of programs for youth and adults
19 who do not meet the criteria for the developmental
20 disabilities waiver; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the director of the autism
22 programs at the university of New Mexico center for
23 development and disability be requested to include
24 participants in the task force from the department of health;
25 the human services department; the children, youth and

1 families department; the public education department; the
2 developmental disabilities planning council; centennial care
3 managed care organizations; the New Mexico autism society;
4 the New Mexico association for behavior analysis; and
5 disability rights New Mexico; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force also be
7 requested to include participation from families of adults
8 with autism spectrum disorder, self-advocates and other
9 appropriate entities; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested
11 to present its recommendations to the legislative health and
12 human services committee and the legislative finance
13 committee by November 30, 2017; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to the president of the university of New Mexico;
16 the director of the autism programs of the university of
17 New Mexico center for development and disability; the
18 secretary of health; the secretary of human services; the
19 secretary of children, youth and families; the secretary of
20 public education; the developmental disabilities planning
21 council; centennial care managed care organizations; the
22 New Mexico autism society; the New Mexico association for
23 behavior analysis; disability rights New Mexico; the chair of
24 the legislative health and human services department; and the
25 chair of the legislative finance committee. _____