1	HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 11
2	53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	Deborah A. Armstrong and Patricia Roybal Caballero
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10	A JOINT MEMORIAL
11	REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO
12	CREATE A STATEWIDE HEALTH PLAN DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE LONG-TERM
13	HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE STRANGULATION.
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15	WHEREAS, New Mexico has the second-highest domestic
16	violence rate in the United States, and sixty-eight percent of
17	all domestic violence victims will experience near fatal
18	strangulation as a consequence of domestic violence; and
19	WHEREAS, often, even in fatal cases, there is no external
20	evidence of injury from strangulation, yet because of
21	underlying brain damage due to the lack of oxygen during the
22	strangulation assault, victims may have serious internal
23	injuries or die days or even weeks later; and
24	WHEREAS, anoxic brain injury from strangulation may occur
25	within seconds and death may occur within minutes; and
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WHEREAS, many law enforcement agencies underestimate the significance of strangulation and its potential lethality and fail to make appropriate medical referrals; and

WHEREAS, many first responders and emergency room personnel lack the training necessary to identify the signs and symptoms of strangulation and often focus on visible, obvious injuries like stab wounds or contusions; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive, multi-pronged approach is needed from law enforcement, first responders and the medical community to effectively address strangulation, reduce children's exposure to violence and end the cycle of violence; and

WHEREAS, the injury prevention division of the department of health is charged with the promotion of programs and policies focusing on the prevention of sexual violence and intimate partner violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health be requested to convene a task force to create a statewide health plan to reduce the incidence of interpersonal violence strangulation and address the long-term health implications of interpersonal violence strangulation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of health be requested to invite representatives from the following entities to participate in the task force:

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the New Mexico coalition against domestic 1 Α. 2 violence: Β. the New Mexico coalition of sexual assault 3 4 programs; C. the Santa Fe coordinated community response 5 council; 6 7 D. a law enforcement agency; the university of New Mexico health sciences 8 Ε. 9 center; F. the Indian health service; 10 G. a medical first responder agency; 11 12 н. a medical professional with an expertise in the area of anoxic brain injury caused by strangulation; and 13 14 I. any other appropriate entity; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force present its 15 recommendations to the legislative health and human services 16 committee and the legislative finance committee no later than 17 November 30, 2017; and 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be 19 20 transmitted to the secretary of health, the chair of the legislative finance committee, the director of the legislative 21 finance committee and the chair of the interim legislative 22 health and human services committee. 23 - 3 -24 25 .205697.2

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