A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO PEDIATRIC SOCIETY TO CONVENE A
"PEDIATRIC SPECIALTY CARE TASK FORCE" TO EXAMINE THE
AVAILABILITY OF PEDIATRIC SPECIALTY SERVICES IN THE STATE AND
MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE SYSTEM OF MEDICAL CARE
FOR CHILDREN IN NEW MEXICO TO ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE ACCESS TO
CARE THAT IS INTEGRATED, EQUITABLE, EFFICIENT, COST-EFFECTIVE
AND FAMILY-CENTERED.

WHEREAS, the United States health resources and services
administration, also known as "HRSA", reports that New Mexico
has more than seventy thousand children with special health
care needs; and

WHEREAS, specialty care for children in New Mexico is
currently fragmented between two large systems, and pediatric
specialists are difficult to recruit and retain; and
WHEREAS, the pediatric specialists are located almost exclusively in Albuquerque and as such are not accessible to the entire pediatric population of the state; and

WHEREAS, those pediatric specialists that practice in Albuquerque are found almost exclusively at the university of New Mexico hospital or Presbyterian hospital; and

WHEREAS, fifty-three percent of children in New Mexico are covered by medicaid or the children's health insurance program, also known as "CHIP", and two of the four managed care organizations currently providing services to medicaid and CHIP recipients are not contracted with the university of New Mexico children's hospital; and

WHEREAS, the children of New Mexico deserve equal access to needed medical treatment regardless of their age, race, ethnicity, location, socioeconomic status or health coverage status;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico pediatric society be requested to convene a "pediatric specialty care task force" to examine the availability of pediatric specialty services in the state and make recommendations for improving the system of medical care for children in New Mexico to ensure that care is integrated, equitable, efficient, cost-effective and family-centered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pediatric specialty care
task force be requested to establish as its goals the
following: improving health outcomes for children; improving
patient and family satisfaction with their medical care; and
making best use of the resources available in New Mexico in a
cost-effective manner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico pediatric
society be requested to invite representatives of the following
entities to join the pediatric specialty care task force: the
human services department; the department of health; the New
Mexico legislature; the university of New Mexico children's
hospital; Presbyterian hospital; New Mexico families; medicaid
managed care organizations; and others as the New Mexico
pediatric society deems appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pediatric specialty care
task force be requested to report its findings and
recommendations to the legislative health and human services
committee and the legislative finance committee by December 1,
2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
transmitted to the chair and vice chair of the legislative
health and human services committee, the secretary of health,
the secretary of human services, the executive director of the
New Mexico pediatric society, the chancellor for health
sciences of the university of New Mexico and the chief
executive officer of Presbyterian healthcare services.