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HOUSE MEMORIAL 65

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson and Deborah A. Armstrong

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO ALLIANCE OF HEALTH COUNCILS TO
CONVENE A NEW MEXICO HEALTH COUNCIL SYSTEM TASK FORCE TO
ANALYZE THE WORK OF THE COUNTY AND TRIBAL HEALTH COUNCILS IN
RELATION TO THE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PLAN ACT, AS AMENDED
IN 2007, AND TO RECOMMEND STEPS TO STRENGTHEN THE STRUCTURE,
EFFECTIVENESS AND SUSTAINABILITY OF COUNTY AND TRIBAL HEALTH
COUNCILS IN IDENTIFYING AND ADDRESSING THE HEALTH NEEDS OF NEW
MEXICO COMMUNITIES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico's county health councils were
established in 1991 under the auspices of the Maternal and
Child Health Plan Act; and

WHEREAS, the Maternal and Child Health Plan Act was
amended in 2007 to include community health councils in tribal
communities; and

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1 WHEREAS, for twenty-six years, New Mexico's county and
2 tribal health councils have served the state as the hub of
3 public health systems in counties and tribal communities; and

4 WHEREAS, county and tribal health councils have produced
5 community health assessments that identify and document local
6 health needs, resources and conditions; and

7 WHEREAS, county and tribal health councils have produced
8 community health plans that identify local health priorities,
9 goals and strategies; and

10 WHEREAS, county and tribal health councils have developed
11 and implemented policies, programs and services to address
12 critical health needs and to increase access to essential
13 services; and

14 WHEREAS, county and tribal health councils have worked
15 with communities to attract federal, state and private funding
16 to communities to support health programs and services; and

17 WHEREAS, county and tribal health councils continue to
18 provide accurate, up-to-date information on local health needs
19 to state agencies and nonprofit service providers; and

20 WHEREAS, county and tribal health councils have provided
21 planning and coordination of local health services that result
22 in reducing duplication and filling gaps in services; and

23 WHEREAS, the New Mexico alliance of health councils was
24 established as a statewide, nonprofit organization to speak on
25 behalf of New Mexico county and tribal health councils, to

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1 facilitate communication and capacity-building and to develop
2 resources to support and enhance the work of the health
3 councils;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
6 alliance of health councils be requested to convene a New
7 Mexico health council system task force to analyze the work of
8 the health councils in relation to the Maternal and Child
9 Health Plan Act, as amended in 2007, and to identify steps to
10 strengthen the structure, effectiveness and sustainability of
11 county and tribal health councils; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico health council
13 system task force be requested to include representatives of
14 key entities involved in New Mexico's public health system,
15 including, at a minimum, representatives of the following
16 entities:

17 A. the department of health and other agencies as
18 the New Mexico alliance of health councils deems appropriate;

19 B. the university of New Mexico health sciences
20 center;

21 C. New Mexico state university;

22 D. the southwest center for health innovation's New
23 Mexico public health institute;

24 E. the New Mexico public health association;

25 F. the New Mexico association of counties;

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