HOUSE BILL 252

55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT
RELATING TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019; REQUESTING THAT THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH USE ALLOWABLE FEDERAL FUNDS FOR LOCAL
OUTREACH EFFORTS TO INFORM NEW MEXICANS ABOUT VACCINES AND
ENCOURAGE THEM TO GET VACCINATED.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--CORONAVIRUS DISEASE
2019--FINDINGS--DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH--USING ALLOWABLE FEDERAL
FUNDS FOR LOCAL OUTREACH EFFORTS.--

A. The legislature finds that more effort is needed in local areas around the state to increase the number of New Mexicans who are vaccinated against coronavirus disease 2019. The legislature also finds that without the benefits of high vaccination rates:

(1) New Mexicans will continue to die from...
this pandemic or will require prolonged hospitalizations; and

    (2) the economy will continue to stagnate as
government is required to limit contact between people to
protect them and others against the disease.

B. The legislature requests that the department of
health use one million dollars ($1,000,000) of allowable
federal funds received from federal coronavirus disease 2019
funding for outreach efforts by local health councils using
established community organizations to provide written and
spoken culturally and linguistically appropriate promotion of
vaccinations against the coronavirus disease 2019. Community
outreach should target populations that are highly susceptible
to the disease or the economic effects of the disease,
including rural, indigenous, Hispanic, Black, other communities
of color, immigrants and non-English speaking populations.