A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A PUBLIC HEALTH TASK FORCE TO RECOMMEND STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic has made the need for a strong public health system more urgent; and

WHEREAS, the national conference of state legislatures has begun to focus on public health infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has a centralized public health infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the state has already developed interagency cooperation among the agencies involved in health care; and

WHEREAS, further collaboration among state agencies, local and county governments, academic institutions and nonprofit organizations has the potential to improve the public health infrastructure, improve the health of New Mexicans and reduce costs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary of health be requested to convene a public health task force to study public health infrastructure and procedures in New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the areas to be considered for study include, but not be limited to, public health
infrastructure, the public health workforce, the status of
the social determinants of health and laws that protect
public health; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public health task force
be requested to recommend strategies for improving public
health infrastructure in New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of health be
requested to include the following participants in the public
health task force: relevant state agencies, representatives
from local and county governments, relevant academic programs
and relevant nonprofit organizations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings and
recommendations of the task force be presented to the
legislative health and human services committee by December
1, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
transmitted to the governor, the secretary of health and the
executive director of the New Mexico association of counties.