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HOUSE MEMORIAL 12

**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024**

INTRODUCED BY

Charlotte Little and Tara Jaramillo and Cristina Parajón and  
Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson and Pamelya Herndon

A MEMORIAL

ACKNOWLEDGING ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS FACED BY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
CARE PROVIDERS AND CALLING FOR A STUDY TO EXAMINE THESE BURDENS  
AND TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXPAND THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
CARE WORKFORCE IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, mental health care and substance use disorder  
treatment are included in the field of behavioral health care;  
and

WHEREAS, the demand for behavioral health care has  
significantly increased in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is experiencing a statewide shortage  
of behavioral health care providers; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico residents seeking behavioral health  
care struggle to find providers with availability and face long  
wait times and limited service options; and

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1           WHEREAS, behavioral health care providers who practice in  
2 New Mexico report facing disproportionate administrative  
3 burdens, including:

4           A. cumbersome licensing and credentialing  
5 processes;

6           B. conflicting and inconsistent demands from  
7 regulatory authorities;

8           C. frequent and redundant demands to submit  
9 documents, reports and data;

10           D. duplicative site visits and service reviews by  
11 multiple state agencies, regulatory and licensing authorities  
12 and managed care organizations;

13           E. unnecessary requirements to carry out  
14 administrative functions that could be managed by  
15 administrative staff;

16           F. avoidable barriers that hinder the timely  
17 provision of critical and lifesaving medication and other  
18 treatment to patients and clients; and

19           G. extraordinary delays in compensation for  
20 rendered services from managed care organizations and state  
21 agencies; and

22           WHEREAS, these administrative burdens are generally  
23 unfunded and create financial vulnerabilities for behavioral  
24 health care providers; and

25           WHEREAS, these administrative burdens also limit

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1 behavioral health care providers' ability to treat patients and  
2 clients; and

3 WHEREAS, these administrative burdens do not improve  
4 behavioral health care services; and

5 WHEREAS, these administrative burdens are unique to  
6 behavioral health care providers in New Mexico;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
8 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interagency  
9 behavioral health purchasing collaborative be requested to  
10 partner with statewide associations that represent behavioral  
11 health care providers to study the administrative burdens  
12 behavioral health care providers face in New Mexico; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study specifically  
14 examine the practices of the:

- 15 A. health care authority department;
- 16 B. behavioral health services division of the  
17 health care authority department;
- 18 C. department of health;
- 19 D. children, youth and families department; and
- 20 E. regulation and licensing department and  
21 applicable licensing boards; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by November 1, 2024, the  
23 interagency behavioral health purchasing collaborative report  
24 its findings and recommendations to the governor and the  
25 legislative health and human services committee regarding

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1 meaningful ways to address the administrative burdens faced by  
2 behavioral health care providers and how to substantially  
3 expand and support the behavioral health care workforce in New  
4 Mexico; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
6 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of health care  
7 authority and the legislative health and human services  
8 committee.

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