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SENATE BILL 429

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

DIANNA J. DURAN & SUE WILSON

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION; REORGANIZING CERTAIN STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND RE-ALLOCATING FUNCTIONS; CREATING A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING POWERS AND DUTIES; PROVIDING FOR TRANSFERS OF APPROPRIATIONS, FUNDS, FUNCTIONS AND PROPERTY; ABOLISHING CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS: AMENDING, REPEALING AND ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978.

AN ACT

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

Section 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE. -- Sections 1 through 14 of this act may be cited as the "Workforce Development Department Act".

[NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the Section 2. Workforce Development Department Act:

> "department", appearing without qualification, A.

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means the workforce development department created by the Workforce Development Department Act; and

"secretary" means the secretary of workforce B. development.

Section 3. [NEW MATERIAL] PURPOSE. -- The purpose of the Workforce Development Department Act is to establish a single, unified department to administer welfare- and workforce-related programs. The department shall administer all laws and functions formerly administered by the labor department, the human services department, the youth conservation corps unit of the energy, minerals and natural resources department, the americorps unit of the children, youth and families department and the occupational health and safety bureau of the department of environment.

[NEW MATERIAL] WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT Section 4. ESTABLI SHED. --

- There is created in the executive branch the Α. "workforce development department". The department is a cabinet department.
- Until July 1, 1998, the department shall consist B. of, but not be limited to, six divisions:
 - (1) employment security division;
 - income support division; **(2)**
 - child support enforcement division; **(3)**
 - **(4)** medical assistance division;

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- (5) programs division; and
- (6) administrative services division.
- C. Beginning July 1, 1998, the department shall consist of, but not be limited to, five divisions:
 - (1) employment security division;
 - (2) income support division;
 - (3) child support enforcement division;
 - (4) programs division; and
 - (5) administrative services division.
- D. The secretary is empowered to organize the department and the divisions specified in Subsections B and C of this section and may transfer or merge functions between divisions in the interest of efficiency and economy.
- Section 5. [NEW MATERIAL] GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

 ABOLISHED. -- On July 1, 1997 the labor department and the human services department are abolished.
- Section 6. [NEW MATERIAL] SECRETARY OF WORKFORCE
 DEVELOPMENT--APPOINTMENT.--
- A. The chief executive and administrative officer of the department is the "secretary of workforce development". The secretary shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The secretary holds office at the pleasure of the governor and shall serve in the executive cabinet.
 - B. A secretary who has been appointed but not yet

confirmed shall serve and have all the duties, responsibilities and authority assigned by law to that office during the period of time prior to the final action by the senate to confirm or reject his appointment.

- Section 7. [NEW MATERIAL] SECRETARY--DUTIES AND GENERAL POWERS.--
- A. The secretary is responsible to the governor for the operation of the department. It is his duty to manage all operations of the department and to administer and enforce the laws with which he or the department is charged.
- B. To perform his duties, the secretary has every power expressly enumerated in the laws whether granted to the secretary or the department or any division of the department except when authority conferred upon any division is explicitly exempted from the secretary's authority by statute. In accordance with these provisions, the secretary shall:
- (1) exercise general supervisory and appointing authority over all department employees, subject to any applicable personnel laws and regulations;
- (2) delegate authority to subordinates as he deems necessary and appropriate, clearly delineating the delegated authority and any limitations on it;
- (3) organize the department into those organizational units he deems will enable it to function most efficiently, subject to any provisions of law requiring or

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establishing specific organizational units;

- (4) within the limitations of available appropriations and applicable laws, employ and fix the compensation of those persons necessary to discharge his duties;
- (5) take administrative action by issuing orders and instructions, not inconsistent with the law, to assure implementation of and compliance with the provisions of law with the administration or execution of which he is responsible, and to enforce those orders and instructions by appropriate administrative action or actions in the court;
- (6) conduct research and studies that will improve the operation of the department;
- (7) provide courses of instruction and practical training for employees of the department and other persons involved in the administration of programs with the objective of improving the operations and efficiency of administration;
 - (8) prepare an annual budget of the department;
- (9) provide cooperation, at the request of heads of administratively attached agencies, in order to:
- (a) minimize or eliminate duplication of services and jurisdictional conflicts;
- (b) coordinate activities and resolve problems of mutual concern; and
- (c) resolve by agreement the manner and extent to which the department shall provide budgeting,

recordkeeping and related clerical assistance to administratively attached agencies, if any;

- (10) appoint, with the governor's consent, for each division, a director, who shall be exempt from the provisions of the Personnel Act and shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary;
- (11) give bond in the penal sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) and require directors to each give bond in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) conditioned upon the faithful performance of duties as provided in the Surety Bond Act with the department paying the cost of such bonds:
- (12) require performance bonds of such employees and officers as he deems necessary as provided in the Surety Bond Act with the department paying the costs of such bonds; and
 - (13) enter into contracts.
- C. The secretary may bring suit on behalf of the department, and the secretary, the department and its employees may be sued subject to the provisions of the Tort Claims Act.
- D. The secretary may apply for and receive, with the governor's approval, in the name of the department, any public or private funds.
- E. If functions of state government departments overlap a function of the department or a function assigned to the department could better be performed by another state

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government department or a function assigned to another state government department could best be performed by the department, the secretary may recommend appropriate legislation to reallocate those functions to the next session of the legislature for its consideration.

F. The secretary may adopt and promulgate reasonable rules and regulations necessary to carry out the duties of the department and its divisions. A rule or regulation adopted by a division director in carrying out the functions and duties of the division shall not be effective until approved by the secretary unless otherwise provided explicitly by statute. Unless otherwise provided explicitly by statute, no regulation affecting any person or agency outside the department shall be adopted, amended or repealed without a public hearing on the proposed action before the secretary or a hearing officer designated by him. The public hearing shall be held in Santa Fe unless otherwise permitted by statute. Notice of the subject matter of the regulation, the action proposed to be taken, the time and place of the hearing, the manner in which interested persons may present their views and the method by which copies of the proposed regulation, proposed amendment or repeal of an existing regulation may be obtained shall be published once at least thirty days prior to the hearing date in a newspaper of general circulation in the state and mailed at least thirty days prior to the hearing date to all persons who have made a written

request for advance notice of hearing.

G. All rules and regulations shall be filed in accordance with the State Rules Act.

Section 8. [NEW MATERIAL] ADMINISTRATIVELY ATTACHED AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS. -- The human rights commission, the labor and industrial commission, the workforce development board, the New Mexico youth conservation corps commission, the occupational health and safety review commission, the New Mexico office of Indian affairs and the commission on the status of women are administratively attached to the department and shall have the status of administratively attached agencies pursuant to the provisions of the Executive Reorganization Act.

Section 9. [NEW MATERIAL] DIRECTORS. -- The secretary shall appoint, with the approval of the governor, directors of the divisions established within the department.

Section 10. [NEW MATERIAL] BUREAUS--CHIEFS.--The secretary shall establish within each division those bureaus as he deems necessary to carry out the provisions of the Workforce Development Department Act. He shall employ a chief to be administrative head of each bureau.

Section 11. [NEW MATERIAL] PERSONNEL ACT COVERAGE.--All employees and positions in the department, except for the positions of secretary, division director and other positions expressly permitted pursuant to the Personnel Act and designated as exempt by the secretary shall be covered by and shall be

subject to the provisions of the Personnel Act.

Section 12. [NEW MATERIAL] COOPERATION WITH THE FEDERAL

GOVERNMENT--AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY--SINGLE STATE AGENCY

STATUS. --

A. The department is authorized to cooperate with the federal government in the administration of employment, training and public assistance programs under the jurisdiction of the department in which financial or other participation by the federal government is authorized or mandated pursuant to federal laws, regulations, rules or orders. The secretary may enter into agreements with agencies of the federal government to implement employment, training and public assistance programs subject to availability of appropriated state funds and any provisions of state laws applicable to those agreements or participation by the state.

B. The governor or the secretary may designate the department or an organizational unit of the department as the single state agency for the administration of any employment, training or public assistance program, either in the governor's or the secretary's discretion or when the designation is a condition of federal financial or other participation in the program under federal law, regulation, rule or order. No designation of a single state agency under the authority granted in this subsection shall be made in contravention of state law.

Section 13. [NEW MATERIAL] ADVISORY COMMITTEES. -- The

secretary, with the consent of the governor, may create advisory committees in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-1-9 NMSA 1978. The secretary shall appoint the members of the advisory committees with the consent of the governor. If the existence of an advisory committee, its representational membership requirements or other matters are required or specified under any federal law, regulation, rule or order as a condition for receiving federal funds for any program administered by the department, the secretary and the governor shall comply with those requirements in creating the advisory committee.

Section 14. [NEW MATERIAL] ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS OF THE DEPARTMENT--POWERS AND DUTIES SPECIFIED BY LAW--ACCESS TO INFORMATION.--

A. Those organizational units of the department and the officers of those units specified by law shall have all the powers and duties enumerated in the specific laws assigned to their organizational units for administration. However, the carrying out of those powers and duties shall be subject to the direction and supervision of the secretary, and the secretary shall retain the final decision-making authority and responsibility in accordance with the provisions of Subsection B of Section 7 of the Workforce Development Department Act. The department shall be given access to all records, data and information of other departments, agencies and institutions not

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specifically made confidential by law.

- B. Subject to the provisions of Subsection B of Section 7 of the Workforce Development Department Act:
- (1) the employment security division has the powers and duties conferred by law upon the former employment security division of the labor department;
- (2) the income support division has the powers and duties conferred by law upon the former income support division of the human services department;
- (3) the child support enforcement division has the powers and duties conferred by law upon the former child support enforcement division of the human services department;
- (4) the medical assistance division has the powers and duties conferred by law upon the former medical assistance division of the human services department; and
- (5) the programs division has the powers and duties conferred upon the former labor and industrial division and human rights division of the labor department, the occupational health and safety bureau of the department of environment, the youth conservation corps unit of the energy, minerals and natural resources department and the americorps unit of the children, youth and families department.

Section 15. Section 9-5B-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1992, Chapter 91, Section 3) is amended to read:

"9-5B-3. DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the New Mexico Youth

Conservation Corps Act:

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- A. "commission" means the New Mexico youth conservation corps commission;
- B. "corps" means the New Mexico youth conservation corps;
- C. "corps member" means a person enrolled in the corps;
- D. "department" means the [energy, minerals and natural resources] workforce development department;
- E. "nonprofit organization" means any organization that has been granted an exemption from federal income tax by the United States commissioner of internal revenue as an organization described in Section 501(c) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended or renumbered;
- F. "project" means an activity that can be completed in six months or less, results in a specific identifiable service or product that otherwise would not be accomplished with existing funds and does not duplicate the routine services or functions of the sponsor;
- G. "resident" means an individual who has resided in New Mexico for at least six months before applying for employment with the corps; and
- H. "sponsor" means any local unit of government, state agency, federal agency, nonprofit organization or federally recognized [Native American] Indian nation, tribe or pueblo."

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Section 16. Section 9-5B-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1992, Chapter 91, Section 5) is amended to read:

"9-5B-5. COMMISSION CREATED--MEMBERSHIP--APPOINTMENTS--TERMS--VACANCIES--COMPENSATION.--

A. There is created a nine-member "New Mexico youth conservation corps commission" [which] that is administratively attached to the department. The commission consists of the following members:

- (1) the superintendent of public instruction or his designee;
- (2) the commissioner of public lands or his designee;
- (3) the secretary of [energy, minerals and natural resources] workforce development or his designee;
- (4) the secretary of [the youth authority] children, youth and families or his designee; and
- (5) five members of the general public appointed by the governor to reflect the geographic diversity of the state, one of whom is knowledgeable in the current policies of the United States forest service and one of whom is Native American.
- B. One [of the members] <u>public member</u> of the commission shall be appointed by the governor for a one-year term, two <u>public</u> members shall be appointed for two-year terms and two <u>public</u> members shall be appointed for three-year terms

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- All subsequent appointments of public members shall be made for three-year terms.
- The public members shall serve at the pleasure of Vacancies on the commission caused by the loss of the governor. a public member shall be filled by appointment by the governor for the unexpired term within sixty days of the vacancy. Publ i c commission members shall serve until their successors have been appointed.
- D. A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum for transaction of business. commission shall elect a chairman from its membership.
- Members of the commission shall be compensated as provided in the Per Diem and Mileage Act and shall receive no other compensation, perquisite or allowance."

Section 17. Section 9-7A-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977, Chapter 253, Section 78, as amended) is amended to read:

"9-7A-14. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REVIEW COMMISSION -- EXEMPTIONS FROM AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF [ENVIRONMENT] WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT. -- The occupational health and safety review commission shall receive staff support from the <u>workforce development</u> department [of environment]. powers, duties and responsibilities of the occupational health and safety review commission under Sections 50-9-9, 50-9-17 and 50-9-24 NMSA 1978 are hereby explicitly exempted from the authority of the secretary of workforce development under

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provisions of Subsection B of Section [6 of The Department of Environment Act] 9-7A-6 NMSA 1978."

Section 18. Section 13-4-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965, Chapter 35, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"13-4-11. MINIMUM WAGES ON PUBLIC WORKS--WEEKLY PAYMENT--POSTING WAGE SCALE--WITHHOLDING FUNDS. -- Every contract or project in excess of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to which the state or any political subdivision thereof is a party for construction, alteration, demolition or repair or any combination of these, including painting and decorating, of public buildings, public works or public roads of the state and [which] that requires or involves the employment of mechanics, laborers or both shall contain a provision stating the minimum wages to be paid to various classes of laborers and mechanics, which shall be based upon the wages that will be determined by the [director of the] labor and industrial [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department to be prevailing for the corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on contract work of a similar nature in the state or locality, and every contract or project shall contain a stipulation that the contractor, subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor shall pay all mechanics and laborers employed on the site of the project, unconditionally and not less often than once a week and without subsequent unlawful deduction or rebate on any account, the full amounts accrued at time of payment

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computed at wage rates not less than those stated in the minimum wage rates issued for the project.

For the purpose of making wage determinations, the [director of the] labor and industrial [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department shall conduct a continuing program for the obtaining and compiling of wage-rate information and shall encourage the voluntary submission of wage-rate data by contractors, contractors' associations, labor organizations, interested persons and public officers. making a determination of wage rates for any project, [he] the bureau shall give due regard to the information thus obtained. Whenever the [director] bureau deems that the data at hand are insufficient to make a wage determination, [he] it may have a field survey conducted for the purpose of obtaining sufficient information upon which to make determination of wage rates. interested person shall have the right to submit to the [director] bureau written data, views and arguments why the wage determination should be changed.

B. The scale of wages to be paid shall be posted by the contractor or person acting as a contractor in a prominent and easily accessible place at the site of the work; and it is further provided that there may be withheld from the contractor, subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor so much of accrued payments as may be considered necessary by the contracting officer to pay to laborers and mechanics employed on

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the project the difference between the rates of wages required by the [director of the] labor and industrial [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department to be paid to laborers and mechanics on the work and the rates of wages received by such laborers and mechanics and not refunded to the contractor, subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor or their agents.

C. The [director of the] labor and industrial
[division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development
department shall have authority to issue rules and regulations
necessary to administer and accomplish the purposes of the
Public Works Minimum Wage Act."

Section 19. Section 13-4-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965, Chapter 35, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"13-4-12. DEFINITION OF THE TERM "WAGES". --

A. As used in Section 13-4-11 NMSA 1978, "wages", "scale of wages", "wage rates" and "minimum wages" [and "prevailing wages"] include:

- (1) the basic hourly rate of pay; and
- (2) the amount of:
- (a) the rate of contribution irrevocably made by a contractor, subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor to a trustee or a third person pursuant to a fund, plan or program; and
 - (b) the rate of costs to a contractor,

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subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor [which] that reasonably may be anticipated in providing benefits to laborers and mechanics pursuant to an enforceable commitment to carry out a financially responsible plan or program [which] that was communicated in writing to the laborers and mechanics affected for: 1) medical or hospital care; 2) pensions on retirement or death; 3) compensation for injuries or illness resulting from occupational activity; or 4) insurance to provide for any of the foregoing; and for: 5) unemployment benefits; 6) life insurance; 7) disability and sickness insurance; 8) accident insurance; 9) vacation and holiday pay; 10) costs of apprenticeship or other similar programs; or for 11) other bona fide fringe benefits; but only where the contractor, subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor is not required by other federal, state or local law to provide any of the foregoing or similar benefits.

- B. The obligation of a contractor, subcontractor, employer or person acting as a contractor to make payment in accordance with the prevailing wage determinations of the [director of the] labor and industrial [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department, insofar as Section 13-4-11 NMSA 1978 or other sections of legislative acts incorporating Section 13-4-11 NMSA 1978 are concerned, may be discharged by:
 - (1) the making of payments in cash;

- (2) the making of contributions of a type referred to in Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of this section: or
- (3) the assumption of an enforceable commitment to bear the costs of a plan or program of a type referred to in Subparagraph (b) of Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of this section or any combination thereof where the aggregate of any payments or contributions and costs therefor is not less than the rate of pay described in Section 13-4-11 NMSA 1978 plus the amount referred to in this section.
- [C. The provisions of this section shall not affect existing contracts or contracts resulting from bids outstanding on July 15, 1965]"

Section 20. Section 13-4-13 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965, Chapter 35, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"13-4-13. FAILURE TO PAY MINIMUM WAGE--TERMINATION OF CONTRACT.--Every contract within the scope of the Public Works Minimum Wage Act shall contain further provision that in the event it is found by [the director of] the labor and industrial [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department that any laborer or mechanic employed on the site of the project has been or is being paid as a result of a willful violation a rate of wages less than the rate of wages required, the contracting agency may, by written notice to the contractor, subcontractor, employer or person acting as a contractor

terminate their right to proceed with the work or such part of the work as to which there has been a willful failure to pay the required wages, and the contracting agency may prosecute the work to completion by contract or otherwise, and the contractor or person acting as a contractor and his sureties shall be liable to the state for any excess costs occasioned thereby. Any party receiving notice of termination of his project or subcontract under the provisions of this section may appeal the finding of the [director] bureau as provided in the Public Works Minimum Wage Act."

Section 21. Section 13-4-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965, Chapter 35, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"13-4-14. PAYMENT OF WAGES FROM FUNDS WITHHELD--LIST OF CONTRACTORS VIOLATING ACT--ADDITIONAL RIGHT OF WAGE EARNERS.--

A. The [director of the] labor and industrial [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department shall certify to the contracting agency the names of persons or firms he has found to have disregarded their obligations to employees under the Public Works Minimum Wage Act and the amount of arrears. The contracting agency is authorized and directed to pay or cause to be paid to the affected laborers and mechanics, from any accrued payments withheld under the terms of the contract or designated for the project, any wages found due such workmen pursuant to the Public Works Minimum Wage Act. The [director] bureau shall, after notice to the affected

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persons, distribute a list to all departments of the state giving the names of persons or firms [he has] found to have willfully violated the Public Works Minimum Wage Act. No contract or project shall be awarded to the persons or firms appearing on this list or to any firm, corporation, partnership or association in which the persons or firms have an interest until three years have elapsed from the date of publication of the list containing the names of the persons or firms. Any person to be included on the list to be distributed may appeal the finding of the [director] bureau as provided in the Public Works Minimum Wage Act.

If the accrued payments withheld under the terms of В. the contract, as mentioned in Subsection A of this section, are insufficient to reimburse all the laborers and mechanics with respect to whom there has been a failure to pay the wages required pursuant to the Public Works Minimum Wage Act, the laborers and mechanics shall have the right of action or intervention or both against the contractor or person acting as a contractor and his sureties, conferred by law upon such persons furnishing labor and materials, and, in such proceeding, it shall be no defense that the laborers and mechanics accepted or agreed to less than the required rate of wages or voluntarily The [director of the] labor and industrial made refunds. [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department shall refer such matters to the district attorney in

the appropriate county, and it is the duty and responsibility of the district attorney to bring civil suit for wages due and liquidated damages provided for in Subsection C of this section.

C. In the event of any violation of the Public Works Minimum Wage Act, the contractor, subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor responsible for the violation shall be liable to any affected employee for his unpaid wages. In addition, the contractor, subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor shall be liable to any affected employee for liquidated damages in the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each calendar day on which a contractor, subcontractor, employer or any person acting as a contractor has willfully required or permitted an individual laborer or mechanic to work in violation of the provisions of the Public Works Minimum Wage Act."

Section 22. Section 13-4-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963, Chapter 304, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"13-4-15. APPEALS. --

A. Any interested person may appeal any determination, finding or action of the [director of the] labor and industrial [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department made pursuant to the Public Works Minimum Wage Act to the labor and industrial commission sitting as the appeals board by filing notice of the appeal with the [director] chief of the labor and industrial bureau within fifteen days after the

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determination has been issued or notice of the finding or action has been given as provided in the Public Works Minimum Wage Act.

- B. The labor and industrial commission, sitting as the appeals board, shall adopt such rules and regulations as it deems necessary for the prompt disposition of appeals. A copy of the rules and regulations shall be filed [with the librarian of the supreme court library] in accordance with the State Rules Act.
- C. The appeals board, within ten days after the filing of the appeal, shall set the matter for an oral hearing within thirty days and, following such hearing, shall enter a decision within ten days after the close of the hearing and promptly mail copies of the decision to the parties.
- Decisions of the appeals board may be reviewed by D. the district court in Santa Fe county or in the county in which the contract affected is to be performed. Proceedings for review shall be instituted by filing a petition in the court within thirty days after mailing notice of the final decision of the board. Copies of the petition shall be served upon the [director] chief of the labor and industrial [division] bureau of the [labor] <u>workforce development</u> department and all parties The review shall be conducted by the court without a of record. jury and shall be confined to the record of the proceedings The findings of fact of the board shall be before the board. binding upon the district court when supported by substantial

evidence. The court may affirm the decision of the board or remand the case for further proceedings. The court may reserve or modify the decision because the administrative findings, inferences, conclusions or decisions are:

(1) in violation of constitutional or statutory provisions;

- (2) in excess of the statutory authority of the board:
 - (3) made upon unlawful procedure;
 - (4) affected by other error of law;
- (5) clearly erroneous in view of the reliable probative and substantial evidence on the whole record; or
- (6) arbitrary or capricious or characterized by abusive discretion or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion.

An aggrieved party may obtain a review of any final judgment of the district court made pursuant to the Public Works Minimum Wage Act by appeal to the [supreme] court of appeals, which shall be taken as in other civil cases."

Section 23. Section 27-1-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977, Chapter 252, Section 16) is amended to read:

"27-1-1. DEFINITIONS.--As used in Articles 1 and 2 of Chapter [13 NMSA 1953] 27 NMSA 1978, "department", "department of public welfare", "state department of public welfare", "New Mexico department of public welfare", "state board of public

welfare", "board of public welfare", "state board", "state department", "health and social services department", "human services department", "department of health and social services", "health and social services board" and "board" mean the [human services] workforce development department."

Section 24. Section 27-1-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1937, Chapter 18, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-1-3. ACTIVITIES OF [HUMAN SERVICES] WORKFORCE

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT. -- The [human services] department shall be charged with the administration of all the welfare activities of the state as provided in Chapter 27 NMSA 1978, except as otherwise provided for by law. The [human services] department shall, except as otherwise provided by law:

A. administer [old age assistance, aid to dependent children, assistance to the needy blind and otherwise handicapped and general relief] financial assistance programs, including aid to dependent children and general assistance;

[B. administer all aid or services to crippled children, including the extension and improvement of services for crippled children, insofar as practicable under conditions in this state, provide for locating children who are crippled or who are suffering from conditions which lead to crippling, provide corrective and any other services and care and facilities for diagnosis, hospitalization and after-care for children who are crippled or who are suffering from conditions

which lead to crippling, and supervise the administration of those services which are not administered directly by the department;

E.] B. administer and supervise all child welfare activities, service to children placed for adoption, service and care of homeless, dependent and neglected children, service and care for children in foster family homes or in institutions because of dependency or delinquency and care and service to any child who because of physical or mental defect may need such service;

[D.] <u>C.</u> formulate detailed plans, make rules and regulations and take action deemed necessary or desirable to carry out the provisions of Chapter 27 NMSA 1978 and which is not inconsistent with the provisions of that chapter;

[E.] D. cooperate with the federal government in matters of mutual concern pertaining to public welfare and public assistance, including the adoption of such methods of administration as are found by the federal government to be necessary for the efficient operation of the plan for public welfare and assistance:

[F.] E. assist other departments, agencies and institutions of local, state and federal governments when so requested, cooperate with such agencies when expedient in performing services in conformity with the purposes of Chapter 27 NMSA 1978 and cooperate with medical, health, nursing and

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welfare groups, any state agency charged with the administration of laws providing for vocational rehabilitation of physically handicapped persons and organizations within the state;

[G.] F. act as the agent of the federal government in welfare matters of mutual concern in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 27 NMSA 1978 and in the administration of any federal funds granted to this state, to aid in furtherance of [any such] those functions of the state government;

[H.] <u>G.</u> establish [in counties or in districts, which may include two or more counties] local units of administration [to serve as agents of the department]; <u>and</u>

[I. at its discretion, establish local boards of public welfare for such territory as it may see fit and by rule and regulation prescribe the duties of the local board;

J. administer such other public welfare functions as may be assumed by the state after the effective date of this section;

K.] H. carry on research and compile statistics relative to [the entire] public [welfare program throughout the state] assistance programs, including [all phases of] dependency [defectiveness, delinquency] and related problems and develop plans in cooperation with other public and private agencies for the prevention as well as treatment of conditions giving rise to the need for public [welfare problems] assistance programs.

[L. inspect and require reports from all private

institutions, boarding homes and agencies providing assistance, care or other direct services to children who are crippled, neglected, delinquent or dependent, the aged, blind, feebleminded and other dependent persons.

Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to authorize the department to establish or prescribe standards or regulations for or otherwise regulate programs or services to children in group homes as defined in Section 9-8-13 NMSA 1978.]"

Section 25. Section 27-1-3.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980, Chapter 83, Section 1) is amended to read:

"27-1-3.1. ACUTE CARE BED USAGE--FUNDING AUTHORIZATION.-The [human services] workforce development department is
authorized to accept and use federal grants or matching funds
for the purpose of reimbursement to certain rural hospitals for
using empty acute care beds for intermediate care and skilled
nursing care, as defined in federal statutes and regulations,
subject to federal approval and the availability of funds. The
department is authorized to use funds from existing
appropriations for matching federal funds for the purposes of
this [act] section."

Section 26. Section 27-1-3.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980, Chapter 83, Section 1, as amended and as further amended by Section 25 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-1-3.1 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

1	"27-1-3.1 [NEW MATERIAL] ACUTE CARE BED USAGEFUNDING								
2	AUTHORIZATIONThe department of health is authorized to accept								
3	and use federal grants or matching funds for the purpose of								
4	reimbursement to certain rural hospitals for using empty acute								
5	care beds for intermediate care and skilled nursing care, as								
6	defined in federal statutes and regulations, subject to federal								
7	approval and the availability of funds. The department of								
8	health is authorized to use funds from existing appropriations								
9	for matching federal funds for the purposes of this act."								
10	Section 27. Section 27-2-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973,								
11	Chapter 376, Section 1) is amended to read:								
12	"27-2-1. SHORT TITLESections [1 through 20 of this act								
13	and Sections 13-1-9, 13-1-10, 13-1-12, 13-1-13, 13-1-17,								
14	13-1-18, 13-1-18.1, 13-1-19, 13-1-20, 13-1-20.1, 13-1-21,								
15	13-1-22, 13-1-27, 13-1-27.2, 13-1-27.3, 13-1-27.4, 13-1-28,								
16	13-1-28.6, 13-1-29, 13-1-30, 13-1-34, 13-1-35, 13-1-37, 13-1-39,								
17	13-1-40, 13-1-41 and 13-1-42 NMSA 1953] <u>27-2-1 through 27-2-36</u>								
18	NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Public Assistance Act"."								
19	Section 28. Section 27-2-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973,								
20	Chapter 376, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:								
21	"27-2-2. DEFINITIONSAs used in the Public Assistance								
22	Act:								
23	[A. "department" means the human services department;								
24	B. "board" means the human services department;								
25	C.] A. "director" means the secretary of [human								

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services] workforce development;

[D.] B. "local office" means the county or district office of the [human services] workforce development department;

[E.] C. "public welfare" or "public assistance" means any aid or relief granted to or on behalf of an eligible person under the Public Assistance Act and regulations issued pursuant to that act;

[F.] <u>D.</u> "applicant" means a person who has applied for assistance or services under the Public Assistance Act;

[G.] <u>E.</u> "recipient" means a person who is receiving assistance or services under the Public Assistance Act;

[H.] <u>F.</u> "federal act" means the federal Social Security Act, as may be amended from time to time, and regulations issued pursuant to that act; and

[H.] G. "secretary" means the secretary of [human services] workforce development."

Section 29. Section 27-2-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973, Chapter 376, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-2-5. AMOUNT OF GRANT. --

A. The amount of an eligible person's maximum grant of public assistance is determined by deducting the total amount of his nonexempt income from the applicable standard of need.

However, if the amount of federal and state funds available for public assistance is insufficient to provide the grants for all eligible persons, the amount of grants to eligible persons may

be reduced as necessary.

B. The secretary $[\frac{1}{2}]$ of human services may set individual and family maximum and minimum grant levels for each program."

Section 30. Section 27-2-6.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 30, Section 1) is amended to read:

"27-2-6.1. SUPPLEMENTAL POSTNATAL ASSISTANCE.--The [health and social services] department shall establish a program of supplemental postnatal assistance for those [mentally retarded] developmentally disabled persons who during pregnancy received aid to families with dependent children but whose aid was revoked upon relinquishment of the newly born child for adoption. The supplemental postnatal assistance provided for in this section shall be at the same rate as aid to families with dependent children, but [such] supplemental postnatal assistance shall not exceed a period of sixty days. The [health and social services department] secretary shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations [in order] to carry out the provisions of this section."

Section 31. Section 27-2-6.2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1988, Chapter 122, Section 1) is amended to read:

"27-2-6.2. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE--EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.--

A. In the administration of all [food stamp employment and training programs, community work experience programs, work

incentive demonstration programs for recipients of aid to

families with dependent children and all other] work

registration, work incentive or employment and training programs

established or conducted by the [human services] department,

participation of recipients shall be voluntary except as

prohibited by federal law or when mandatory participation is a

requirement in order to secure federal funding for services

provided.

B. Any waiver requests developed and submitted to the

- B. Any waiver requests developed and submitted to the federal government by the [human services] department for [food stamp employment and training programs, community work experience programs, work incentive demonstration programs for recipients of aid to families with dependent children and all other] work registration, work incentive or employment, education and training programs shall include a voluntary program and may also include a mandatory alternative.
- C. The [human services] department shall adopt and promulgate regulations [which] that shall be published and made available for public notice and comment [which]. The regulations shall detail the criteria for mandatory participation and exemptions in accordance with federal law and regulations for persons in work, education, training, job search and work experience programs administered by the [human services] department prior to their implementation.
 - D. The [human services] department shall not place

persons	i n	any	com	muni ty	work	experi e	ence	or	similar	progra	am
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other conditions applicable to the performance of work are met;

and

- (2) the program does not result in displacement of persons currently employed; and
- (3) provision is made for transportation, day care and other costs necessary and directly related to participation in the program."

Section 32. Section 27-2-9.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1979, Chapter 401, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-2-9.1. ADMINISTRATION OF SHELTER CARE SUPPLEMENT. --

A. A shelter care supplement shall be provided to those individuals who are recipients of supplemental security income under Title 16 of the federal Social Security Act and who reside in shelter care homes licensed pursuant to regulations of the [health and environment] department of health.

- B. The [human services] workforce development department is authorized to determine eligibility, compute payment, make payments and otherwise administer the shelter care supplement program.
- C. The amount of the shelter care supplement payment shall be established by the secretary [of human services] subject to the availability of general funds."

Section 33. Section 27-2-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973,

Chapter 376, Section 16, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-2-12. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.--Consistent with the federal act and subject to the appropriation and availability of federal and state funds, the medical assistance division of the [human services] department may by regulation provide medical assistance, including the services of licensed doctors of oriental medicine and licensed chiropractors, to persons eligible for public assistance programs under the federal act."

Section 34. Section 27-2-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973, Chapter 376, Section 16, as amended and as further amended by Section 33 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2-12 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-2-12. [NEW MATERIAL] MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.-Consistent with the federal act and subject to the appropriation and availability of federal and state funds, the department of health may by regulation provide medical assistance, including the services of licensed doctors of oriental medicine and licensed chiropractors, to persons eligible for public assistance programs under the federal act."

Section 35. Section 27-2-12.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987, Chapter 269, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-2-12.3. MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT--EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL PHYSICIANS', DENTISTS', OPTOMETRISTS', PODIATRISTS' AND PSYCHOLOGISTS' SERVICES.--The [human services] department shall establish a rate for the reimbursement of physicians, dentists,

optometrists, podiatrists and psychologists for services rendered to medicaid patients that provides equal reimbursement for the same or similar services rendered without respect to the date on which such physician, dentist, optometrist, podiatrist or psychologist entered into practice in New Mexico, the date on which the physician, dentist, optometrist, podiatrist or psychologist entered into an agreement or contract to provide such services or the location in which such services are to be provided in the state; provided, however, that the requirements of this section shall not apply when the [human services] department contracts with entities pursuant to Section 27-2-12.6 NMSA 1978 to negotiate a rate for the reimbursement for services rendered to medicaid patients in the medicaid managed care system."

Section 36. Section 27-2-12.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987, Chapter 269, Section 1, as amended and as further amended by Section 35 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2-12.3 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-2-12.3. [NEW MATERIAL] MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT--EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL PHYSICIANS', DENTISTS', OPTOMETRISTS',
PODIATRISTS' AND PSYCHOLOGISTS' SERVICES.--The department of health shall establish a rate for the payment of physicians, dentists, optometrists, podiatrists and psychologists for services rendered to medicaid patients that provides equal payment for the same or similar services rendered without

respect to the date on which the physician, dentist, optometrist, podiatrist or psychologist entered into practice in New Mexico, the date on which the physician, dentist, optometrist, podiatrist or psychologist entered into an agreement or contract to provide the services or the location in which the services are provided in the state, but the requirements of this section shall not apply when the department of health contracts with entities pursuant to Section 27-2-12.6 NMSA 1978 to pay for services rendered to medicaid patients in the medicaid managed care system."

Section 37. Section 27-2-12.4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987, Chapter 214, Section 1) is amended to read:

"27-2-12. 4. LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES--NONCOMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS AND CONDITIONS--SANCTIONS.--

A. In addition to any other actions required or permitted by federal law or regulation, the [human services] department shall impose a hold on state medicaid payments to a long-term care facility thirty days after the department of health [and environment department] notifies the [human services] department in writing pursuant to an on-site visit that the long-term care facility is not in substantial compliance with the standards or conditions of participation promulgated by the federal department of health and human services pursuant to which the facility is a party to a medicaid provider agreement, unless the substantial noncompliance has

been corrected within that thirty-day period or the facility's medical provider agreement is terminated or not renewed based in whole or in part on the noncompliance. The written notice shall cite the specific deficiencies that constitute noncompliance.

- B. The [human services] department shall remove the payment hold imposed under Subsection A of this section when the department of health [and environment department], pursuant to an on-site visit, certifies in writing to the [human services] department that the long-term care facility is in substantial compliance with the standards or conditions of participation pursuant to which the facility is a party to a medicaid provider agreement.
- C. The [human services] department shall not reimburse any long-term care facility during the payment hold period imposed pursuant to Subsection A of this section for any medicaid recipient-patients who are new admissions and who are admitted on or after the day the hold is imposed and prior to the day the hold is removed.
- D. If a long-term care facility is certified in writing to be in noncompliance pursuant to Subsection A of this section for the second time in any twelve-month period, the [human-services] department shall cancel or refuse to execute the long-term care facility's medicaid provider agreement for a two-month period, unless it can be demonstrated that harm to the

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patients would result from this action or that good cause exists to allow the facility to continue to participate in the medicaid The provisions of this subsection are subject to program. appeal procedures set forth in federal regulations for nonrenewal or termination of a medicaid provider agreement.

- Ε. A long-term care facility shall not charge medicaid recipient-patients, their families or their responsible parties to recoup any payments not received because of a hold on medicaid payments imposed pursuant to this section.
- This section [shall not be construed to] does not affect any other provisions for medicaid provider agreement termination, nonrenewal, due process and appeal pursuant to federal law or regulation.
 - G. As used in this section:
- "day" means a twenty-four hour period (1) beginning at midnight and ending one second before midnight;
- "long-term care facility" means any **(2)** intermediate care facility or skilled nursing facility [which] that is licensed by the department of health [and environment department] and [which] that is medicald certified;
- "new admissions" means medicaid recipients who have never been in the long-term care facility or, if previously admitted, had been discharged or had voluntarily left The term does not include: the facility.
 - individuals who were in the long-term (a)

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care facility before the effective date of the hold on medicaid payments and became eligible for medicaid after that date; and

- (b) individuals who, after a temporary absence from the facility, are readmitted to beds reserved for them in accordance with federal regulations; and
- (4) "substantial compliance" means the condition of having no cited deficiencies or having only those cited deficiencies [which] that:
- (a) are not inconsistent with any federal statutory requirement;
- (b) do not interfere with adequate patient are;
- (c) do not represent a hazard to the patients' health or safety;
- (d) are capable of correction within a reasonable period of time; and
- (e) are ones [which] that the long-term care facility is making reasonable plans to correct."

Section 38. Section 27-2-12.4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987, Chapter 214, Section 1, as amended and as further amended by Section 37 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2-12.4 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

- "27-2-12. 4. [NEW MATERIAL] LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES-NONCOMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS AND CONDITIONS--SANCTIONS.--
 - A. In addition to any other actions required or

permitted by federal law or regulation, the department of health shall impose a hold on state medicaid payments to a long-term care facility thirty days after the department of health notifies the long-term care facility in writing pursuant to an on-site visit that the long-term care facility is not in substantial compliance with the standards or conditions of participation promulgated by the federal department of health and human services pursuant to which the facility is a party to a medicaid provider agreement, unless the substantial noncompliance has been corrected within that thirty-day period or the facility's medicaid provider agreement is terminated or not renewed based in whole or in part on the noncompliance. The written notice shall cite the specific deficiencies that constitute noncompliance.

- B. The department of health shall remove the payment hold imposed under Subsection A of this section when the department of health pursuant to an on-site visit certifies in writing that the long-term care facility is in substantial compliance with the standards or conditions of participation pursuant to which the facility is a party to a medicaid provider agreement.
- C. The department of health shall not reimburse any long-term care facility during the payment hold period imposed pursuant to Subsection A of this section for any medicaid recipient-patients who are new admissions and who are admitted

on or after the day the hold is imposed and prior to the day the hold is removed.

- D. If a long-term care facility is certified in writing to be in noncompliance pursuant to Subsection A of this section for the second time in any twelve-month period, the department of health shall cancel or refuse to execute the long-term care facility's medicaid provider agreement for a two-month period, unless it can be demonstrated that harm to the patients would result from this action or that good cause exists to allow the facility to continue to participate in the medicaid program. The provisions of this subsection are subject to appeal procedures set forth in federal regulations for nonrenewal or termination of a medicaid provider agreement.
- E. A long-term care facility shall not charge medicaid recipient-patients, their families or their responsible parties to recoup any payments not received because of a hold on medicaid payments imposed pursuant to this section.
- F. This section shall not be construed to affect any other provisions for medicaid provider agreement termination, nonrenewal, due process and appeal pursuant to federal law or regulation.
 - G. As used in this section:
- (1) "day" means a twenty-four hour period beginning at midnight and ending one second before midnight;
 - (2) "long-term care facility" means any

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intermediate care facility or skilled nursing facility that is licensed by the department of health and that is medicaid certified:

- (3) "new admissions" means medical drecipients who have never been in the long-term care facility or, if previously admitted, had been discharged or had voluntarily left the facility. The term does not include:
- (a) individuals who were in the long-term care facility before the effective date of the hold on medicaid payments and became eligible for medicaid after that date; and
- (b) individuals who, after a temporary absence from the facility, are readmitted to beds reserved for them in accordance with federal regulations; and
- (4) "substantial compliance" means the condition of having no cited deficiencies or having only those cited deficiencies that:
- (a) are not inconsistent with any federal statutory requirement;
- (b) do not interfere with adequate patient care;
- (c) do not represent a hazard to the patients' health or safety;
- $\mbox{(d)} \quad \mbox{are capable of correction within a} \\ \mbox{reasonable period of time; and} \\$
 - (e) are ones that the long-term care

facility is making reasonable plans to correct."

Section 39. Section 27-2-12.5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 83, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-2-12. 5. MEDICAID-CERTIFIED NURSING FACILITIES-RETROACTIVE ELIGIBILITY--REFUNDS--PENALTY.--

A. Medicaid payment for a medicaid-eligible patient shall be accepted by a medicaid-certified nursing facility from the first month of medicaid eligibility, regardless of whether the eligibility is retroactive. The nursing facility shall refund to the patient or responsible party all out-of-pocket money except for required medical-care credits paid to the nursing facility for that patient's care on and after the date of medicaid eligibility for services covered by the medicaid program. Within thirty days after notification by the [human services] department of the patient's medicaid eligibility, the nursing facility shall make any necessary refund to the patient or responsible party required under this section.

B. In any cause of action brought against a nursing facility because of its failure to make a refund to the patient or responsible party as required under Subsection A of this section, the patient or responsible party may be awarded triple the amount of the money not refunded or three hundred dollars (\$300), whichever is greater, and reasonable [attorneys'] attorney fees and court costs."

Section 40. Section 27-2-12.5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989,

Chapter 83, Section 1, as amended and as further amended by Section 39 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2-12.5 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-2-12.5. [NEW MATERIAL] MEDICAID-CERTIFIED NURSING
FACILITIES-- RETROACTIVE ELIGIBILITY--REFUNDS--PENALTY.--

A. Medicaid payment for a medicaid-eligible patient shall be accepted by a medicaid-certified nursing facility from the first month of medicaid eligibility, regardless of whether the eligibility is retroactive. The nursing facility shall refund to the patient or responsible party all out-of-pocket money except for required medical-care credits paid to the nursing facility for that patient's care on and after the date of medicaid eligibility for services covered by the medicaid program. Within thirty days after notification by the department of health of the patient's medicaid eligibility, the nursing facility shall make any necessary refund to the patient or responsible party required under this section.

B. In any cause of action brought against a nursing facility because of its failure to make a refund to the patient or responsible party as required under Subsection A of this section, the patient or responsible party may be awarded triple the amount of the money not refunded or three hundred dollars (\$300), whichever is greater, and reasonable attorney fees and court costs."

Section 41. Section 27-2-12.6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1994,

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Chapter	62,	Section	on 22,	as	amer	ided)	is	repeal ed	and	a	new
Section	27-2	2-12.6	NMSA	1978	3 is	enact	ted	to read:			

"27-2-12.6. [NEW MATERIAL] MEDICAID PAYMENTS--MANAGED

CARE. --

- A. The department of health shall provide for a statewide, managed care system to provide cost-efficient, preventive, primary and acute care for medicaid recipients.
 - B. The managed care system shall ensure:
- (1) access to medically necessary services, particularly for medicaid recipients with chronic health problems;
- (2) to the extent practicable, maintenance of the rural primary care delivery infrastructure;
- (3) that the department of health's approach is consistent with national and state health care reform principles; and
- (4) to the maximum extent possible that medical d-eligible individuals are not identified as such except as necessary for billing purposes.
- C. The department of health may exclude nursing homes, intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded, medicaid in-home and community-based waiver services and residential and community-based mental health services for children with serious emotional disorders from the provisions of this section."

	Secti	on 42.	Sec	ti on	27-2-16	NM	SA	1978	(bei	ing	Laws	1974,
Chapte	r 31 ,	Section	1,	as a	amended)	is	an	ended	to	rea	d:	

"27-2-16. COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW--REIMBURSEMENT FOR DRUG PRODUCTS. --

A. Subject to the availability of state funds, the [human services] department may provide assistance to aged, blind or disabled individuals in the amounts consistent with federal law to enable the state to be eligible for medicaid funding. Individuals shall be determined to be aged, blind or disabled according to regulations of the [human services] department.

B. If drug product selection is permitted by Section 26-3-3 NMSA 1978, reimbursement by the medical program shall be limited to the wholesale cost of the [lesser] less expensive therapeutic equivalent drug generally available in New Mexico plus a reasonable dispensing fee of at least three dollars sixty-five cents (\$3.65)."

Section 43. Section 27-2-16 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1974, Chapter 31, Section 1, as amended and as further amended by Section 42 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2-16 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-2-16. [NEW MATERIAL] COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW--REIMBURSEMENT FOR DRUG PRODUCTS. --

A. Subject to the availability of state funds, the department of health may provide assistance to aged, blind or

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disabled individuals in the amounts consistent with federal law to enable the state to be eligible for medicaid funding.

Individuals shall be determined to be aged, blind or disabled according to regulations of the department of health.

B. If drug product selection is permitted by Section 26-3-3 NMSA 1978, reimbursement by the medical program shall be limited to the wholesale cost of the less expensive therapeutic equivalent drug generally available in New Mexico plus a reasonable dispensing fee of at least three dollars sixty-five cents (\$3.65)."

Section 44. Section 27-2-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969, Chapter 232, Section 1) is amended to read:

"27-2-23. THIRD PARTY LIABILITY. --

- A. The [health and social services] department shall make reasonable efforts to ascertain any legal liability of third parties who are or may be liable to pay all or part of the medical cost of injury, disease or disability of an applicant for or recipient of medical assistance under Chapter 27 NMSA 1978.
- B. When the department makes medical assistance payments [in] on behalf of a recipient, the department is subrogated to any right of the recipient against a third party for recovery of medical expenses to the extent that the department has made payment."

Section 45. Section 27-2-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969,

Chapter 232, Section 1, as amended by Section 44 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2-23 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-2-23. [NEW MATERIAL] THIRD-PARTY LIABILITY.-
A. The department of health shall make reasonable

A. The department of health shall make reasonable efforts to ascertain any legal liability of third parties who are or may be liable to pay all or part of the medical cost of injury, disease or disability of an applicant or recipient of medical assistance.

B. When the department of health makes medical assistance payments on behalf of a recipient, the department of health is subrogated to any right of the recipient against a third party for recovery of medical expenses to the extent that the department of health has made payment."

Section 46. Section 27-2-25 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1937, Chapter 18, Section 11j, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-2-25. FUNERAL EXPENSES. --

A. On the death of:

- (1) a recipient of financial assistance under Section [13-17-9 or Section 13-17-10 NMSA 1953] 27-2-6 or 27-2-7 NMSA 1978 or under the federal supplemental security income program; or
- (2) an individual living in a nursing home or an intermediate care facility, the payment for whose care is made in whole or in part pursuant to Title 19 of the federal act;

funeral expenses up to two hundred dollars (\$200) shall be paid by the [health and social services] department if the deceased's available resources, as defined by regulation of the [board] department, are insufficient to pay the funeral expenses, the persons legally responsible for the support of the deceased are unable to pay the funeral expenses and no other person will undertake to pay [said] those expenses.

B. No payment shall be made by the department when resources available from all sources to pay the funeral expenses total six hundred dollars (\$600) or more. When the resources are less than six hundred dollars (\$600), the department shall pay the difference between six hundred dollars (\$600) and the resources, or two hundred dollars (\$200), whichever is less."

Section 47. Section 27-2-28 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1981, Chapter 90, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-2-28. LIABILITY FOR REPAYMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. --

A. A noncustodial parent is liable to the [human services] department in the amount of the public assistance lawfully and properly furnished to the children, and the spouse or former spouse with whom such children are living, to whom the noncustodial parent owes a duty of support; except that if a support order has been entered, liability for the time period covered by the support order shall not exceed the amount of support provided for in the order.

- B. Amounts of support due and owing for periods prior to the granting of public assistance shall be paid to and retained by the [human services] department to the extent that the amount of assistance granted exceeds the amount of the monthly support obligation.
- C. Amounts of support collected that are in excess of the amounts specified in Subsections A and B of this section shall be paid by the [human services] department to the custodian of the child.
- D. No agreement between any custodian of a child and a parent of that child, either relieving the parent of any duty of child or spousal support or responsibility or purporting to settle past, present or future support obligations, either as a settlement or prepayment, shall act to reduce or terminate any rights of the [human services] department to recover from that parent for support provided, unless the [human services] department has consented to the agreement in writing.
- E. The noncustodial parent shall be given credit for any support actually provided, including housing, clothing, food or funds paid prior to the entry of any order for support. The noncustodial parent has the burden on the issue of any payment.
- F. An application for public assistance by any person constitutes an assignment by operation of law of any support rights the person is entitled to from any other person, whether the support rights are owed to the applicant or to any

family member for whom the applicant is applying for or receiving assistance. The assignment includes all support rights that have accrued at the time of application for public assistance and continues as an assignment of all support rights the applicant is entitled to for as long as the applicant receives public assistance.

- G. By operation of law, an assignment to the [human services] department of any and all rights of an applicant for or recipient of medical assistance under the medicaid program in New Mexico or supplemental security income through the social security administration:
 - (1) is deemed to be made of:
- (a) any payment for medical care from any person, firm or corporation, including an insurance carrier; and
- (b) any recovery for personal injury, whether by judgment or contract for compromise or settlement;
- (2) shall be effective to the extent of the amount of medical assistance actually paid by the department under the medicaid program; and
- (3) shall be effective as to the rights of any other individuals who are eligible for medical assistance and whose rights can legally be assigned by the applicant or recipient.
- <u>H.</u> An applicant or recipient is required to cooperate fully with the [human services] department in its

efforts to secure the assignment and to execute and deliver any instruments and papers deemed necessary to complete the assignment by [that] the department."

Section 48. Section 27-2-28 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1981, Chapter 90, Section 2, as amended and as further amended by Section 47 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2-28 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-2-28. [NEW MATERIAL] LIABILITY FOR REPAYMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. --

A. A noncustodial parent is liable to the department of health and the workforce development department in the amount of the public assistance lawfully and properly furnished to the children, and the spouse or former spouse with whom such children are living, to whom the noncustodial parent owes a duty of support; except that if a support order has been entered, liability for the time period covered by the support order shall not exceed the amount of support provided for in the order.

- B. Amounts of support due and owing for periods prior to the granting of public assistance shall be paid to and retained by the department of health or the workforce development department to the extent that the amount of assistance granted by such department exceeds the amount of the monthly support obligation.
- C. Amounts of support collected that are in excess of the amounts specified in Subsections A and B of this section

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shall be paid by the workforce development department or department of health to the custodian of the child.

- No agreement between any custodian of a child and a parent of that child, either relieving the parent of any duty of child or spousal support or responsibility or purporting to settle past, present or future support obligations, either as a settlement or prepayment, shall act to reduce or terminate any rights of the workforce development department or department of health to recover from that parent for support provided unless the workforce development department or department of health has consented to the agreement in writing.
- E. The noncustodial parent shall be given credit for any support actually provided, including housing, clothing, food or funds paid prior to the entry of any order for support. The noncustodial parent has the burden on the issue of any payment.
- F. An application for public assistance by any person constitutes an assignment by operation of law of any support rights the person is entitled to from any other person, whether the support rights are owed to the applicant or to any family member for whom the applicant is applying for or receiving assistance. The assignment includes all support rights that have accrued at the time of application for public assistance and continues as an assignment of all support rights the applicant is entitled to for as long as the applicant receives public assistance.

G. By operation of law, an assignment to the
department of health of any and all rights of an applicant for
or recipient of medical assistance under the medicaid program in
New Mexico or supplemental security income through the social
security administration:

(1) is deemed to be made of:

- (a) any payment for medical care from any person, firm or corporation, including an insurance carrier; and
- (b) any recovery for personal injury, whether by judgment or contract for compromise or settlement;
- (2) shall be effective to the extent of the amount of medical assistance actually paid by the department of health under the medicaid program; and
- (3) shall be effective as to the rights of any other individuals who are eligible for medical assistance and whose rights can legally be assigned by the applicant or recipient.
- H. An applicant or recipient is required to cooperate fully with the department of health in its efforts to secure the assignment and to execute and deliver any instruments and papers deemed necessary to complete the assignment by that department."

Section 49. Section 27-2-39 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1980, Chapter 25, Section 3) is amended to read:

"27-2-39. DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the AFDC Recipient

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Work Incentive Act:

4	1978;
5	B. "AFDC recipient" means a
6	payments;
7	C. "caregiver" means a perso
8	or older who is compensated for the dire
9	guidance of children for less than a dai
10	peri od;
11	D. "child [day-care] <u>daycare</u>
12	[day-care] <u>daycare</u> center or child [day-
13	E. "department" means the [h
14	development department; and
15	F. "gainful employment" <u>mean</u>
16	remuneration for others, either full tim
17	employment in one's own business or part
18	Section 50. Section 27-2-43 NMSA
19	Chapter 93, Section 3) is amended to rea
20	"27-2-43. DEFINITIONSAs used i
21	Catastrophic Illness Hospital Funding Ac
22	A. "department" means the [h
23	<u>development</u> department;
24	B. "fund" means the indigent
25	hospital fund;

children, pursuant to the provisions of Section 27-2-6 NMSA

person who receives AFDC

on eighteen years of age ect care, supervision and ly twenty-four hour

- facility" means a child care] <u>daycare</u> home;
- numan services] workforce
- s working for ne or part time, or nershi p. "

1978 (being Laws 1990, ad:

in the Indigent ct:

- numan services] workforce
- catastrophic illness

C. "hospital" means any general or special hospita
that is licensed by the <u>department of</u> health [and environment
department] and that has annual gross charges for medicare,
medicaid and indigent patients greater than ten percent of the
hospital's total annual gross charges; and

D. "medically indigent patient" means an individual who is a New Mexico resident who incurs hospital charges, who is not eligible for medicaid or medicare and whose family or household income does not exceed two hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level."

Section 51. Section 27-2-43 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1990, Chapter 93, Section 3, as amended by Section 50 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2-43 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

- "27-2-43. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the Indigent Catastrophic Illness Hospital Funding Act:
 - A. "department" means the department of health;
- B. "fund" means the indigent catastrophic illness hospital fund;
- C. "hospital" means any general or special hospital that is licensed by the department of health and that has annual gross charges for medicare, medicaid and indigent patients greater than ten percent of the hospital's total annual gross charges; and
- D. "medically indigent patient" means an individual who is a New Mexico resident who incurs hospital charges, who is

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not eligible for medicaid or medicare and whose family or household income does not exceed two hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level."

Section 52. Section 27-2A-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1994, Chapter 87, Section 3) is amended to read:

"27-2A-3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Medicaid Estate Recovery Act:

- A. "department" means the [human services] workforce development department;
- B. "estate" means real and personal property and other assets of the individual subject to probate or administration pursuant to the provisions of the Uniform Probate Code; and
- C. "medical assistance" means amounts paid by the department as medical assistance pursuant to Title [XIX] 19 of the Social Security Act."

Section 53. Section 27-2A-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1994, Chapter 87, Section 3, as amended by Section 52 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-2A-3 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-2A-3. DEFINITIONS. --

As used in the Medicaid Estate Recovery Act:

- A. "department" means the department of health;
- B. "estate" means real and personal property and other assets of the individual subject to probate or administration pursuant to the provisions of the Uniform Probate

Code;	and
Couc,	unu

C. "medical assistance" means amounts paid by the department as medical assistance pursuant to Title 19 of the Social Security Act."

Section 54. Section 27-3-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973, Chapter 256, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-3-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Public Assistance Appeals Act:

- A. "department" means the income support division of the workforce development department or the medical assistance division [or the social services division] of the [human services] workforce development department of health;
- B. "board" means the income support division <u>or</u> the medical assistance division [or the social services division] of the [human services] <u>workforce development</u> department; and
- C. "director" means the director of the income support division or the director of the medical assistance division [or the social services division] of the [human services] workforce development department."

Section 55. Section 27-3-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973, Chapter 256, Section 2, as amended and as further amended by Section 54 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-3-2 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-3-2. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Public Assistance Appeals Act:

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- A. "department" means the income support division of the workforce development department or the department of health in reference to the medical assistance program;
- B. "board" means the income support division of the workforce development department or the department of health in reference to the medical assistance program; and
- C. "director" means the director of the income support division of the workforce development department or the secretary of health."

Section 56. Section 27-4-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973, Chapter 311, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

- "27-4-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Special Medical Needs Act:
- A. "department" <u>or "division"</u> means the income support division of the [human services] workforce development department;
- B. "board" means the [income support] division [of the human services department];
- C. "aged person" means one who has attained the age of sixty-five years and does not have a spouse financially able, according to regulations of the [board] division, to furnish support;
- D. "disabled person" means one who has attained the age of eighteen years and is determined to be permanently and totally disabled, according to regulations of the [board]

division; and

E. "blind person" means one who is determined to be blind according to regulations of the [board] division."

Section 57. Section 27-5-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965, Chapter 234, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-5-3. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS. --

A. A hospital shall not be paid from the [county indigent hospital claims] fund under the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act for any costs of an indigent patient for services that have been determined by the [human services] department to be eligible for medicaid reimbursement from [that] the department. However, nothing in the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act shall be construed to prevent the board from transferring money from the [county indigent hospital claims] fund to the sole community provider fund or the county-supported medicaid fund for support of the state medicaid program.

B. No action for collection of claims under the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act shall be allowed against an indigent patient who is medicaid eligible for medicaid covered services, nor shall action be allowed against the person who is legally responsible for the care of the indigent patient during the time that person is medicaid eligible."

Section 58. Section 27-5-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965,

Chapter 234, Section 3, as amended and as further amended by Section 57 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-5-3 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-5-3. [NEW MATERIAL] PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS. --

A. A hospital shall not be paid from the fund pursuant to the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act for any costs of an indigent patient for services that have been determined by the department of health to be eligible for medicaid reimbursement from that department. However, nothing in the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act prevents the board from transferring money from the fund to the sole community provider fund or the county-supported medicaid fund for support of the state medicaid program.

B. No action for collection of claims under the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act shall be allowed against an indigent patient who is medicaid eligible for medicaid covered services, nor shall action be allowed against the person who is legally responsible for the care of the indigent patient during the time that person is medicaid eligible."

Section 59. Section 27-5-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965, Chapter 234, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-5-4. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act:

A. "ambul ance provider" or "ambul ance service" means

a specialized carrier based within the state authorized under provisions and subject to limitations as provided in individual carrier certificates issued by the state corporation commission to transport persons alive, dead or dying en route by means of ambulance service. The rates and charges established by state corporation commission tariff shall govern as to allowable cost. Also included are air ambulance services approved by the board. The air ambulance service charges shall be filed and approved pursuant to Subsection D of Section 27-5-6 NMSA 1978 and Section 27-5-11 NMSA 1978:

- B. "board" means [the] <u>a</u> county indigent hospital and county health care board;
- C. "indigent patient" means a person to whom an ambulance service, a hospital or a health care provider has provided medical care or ambulance transportation and who can normally support himself and his dependents on present income and liquid assets available to him but, taking into consideration this income and those assets and his requirement for other necessities of life for himself and his dependents, is unable to pay the cost of the ambulance transportation or medical care administered or both. If provided by resolution of [the] a board, it shall not include any person whose annual income together with his spouse's annual income totals an amount that is fifty percent greater than the per capita personal income for New Mexico as shown for the most recent year

available in the survey of current business published by the United States department of commerce. Every board that has a balance remaining in the fund at the end of a given fiscal year shall consider and may adopt at the first meeting of the succeeding fiscal year a resolution increasing the standard for indigency. The term "indigent patient" includes a minor who has received ambulance transportation or medical care or both and whose parent or the person having custody of that minor would qualify as an indigent patient if transported by ambulance or admitted to a hospital for care or treated by a health care provider or all three;

- D. "hospital" means any general or limited hospital licensed by the department of health, whether nonprofit or owned by a political subdivision, and may include by resolution of [the] a board the following health facilities if licensed or, in the case of out-of-state hospitals, approved, by the department of health:
 - (1) for-profit hospitals;
 - (2) state-owned hospitals; or
- (3) licensed out-of-state hospitals where treatment provided is necessary for the proper care of an indigent patient when that care is not available in an in-state hospital;
- E. "cost" means all allowable ambulance transportation or medical care costs, including the costs of

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prenatal care, to the extent determined by resolution of [the] a board, for an indigent patient. Allowable costs shall be determined in accordance with a uniform system of accounting and cost analysis as determined by regulation of [the] a board, which includes cost of ancillary services but shall not include the cost of servicing long-term indebtedness of a hospital, health care provider or ambulance service;

- "fund" means [the] a county indigent hospital claims fund:
- "medicaid eligible" means a person who is eligible for medical assistance from the department;
- "county" means any county except a class A county with a county hospital operated and maintained pursuant to a lease with a state educational institution named in Article 12, Section 11 of the constitution of New Mexico;
- "department" means the [human services] workforce <u>development</u> department;
- "sole community provider hospital" means a hospital that is a sole community provider hospital under the provisions of the federal medicare guidelines established in 42 C. F. R. 412.92 pursuant to Title 18 of the federal Social Security Act;
- K. "drug rehabilitation center" means an agency of local government, a state agency, a private nonprofit entity or combination thereof that operates drug abuse rehabilitation

programs that meet the standards and requirements pursuant to the Drug Abuse Act;

L. "alcohol rehabilitation center" means an agency of local government, a state agency, a private nonprofit entity or combination thereof that operates alcohol abuse rehabilitation programs that meet the standards set by the department of health pursuant to the Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, Screening and Treatment Act;

M "mental health center" means a not-for-profit center that provides outpatient mental health services that meet the standards set by the department of health pursuant to the Community Mental Health Services Act; and

- N. "health care provider" means:
 - (1) a nursing home;
 - (2) <u>an</u> in-state home health [agencies] <u>agency</u>;
 - (3) an in-state licensed hospice;
- (4) a community-based health program operated by a political subdivision of the state or other nonprofit health organization that provides prenatal care delivered by New Mexico licensed, certified or registered health care practitioners;
- (5) a community-based health program operated by a political subdivision of the state or other nonprofit health care organization that provides primary care delivered by New Mexico licensed, certified or registered health care

practitioners;

- (6) a drug rehabilitation center;
- (7) an alcohol rehabilitation center; or
- (8) a mental health center."

Section 60. Section 27-5-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1965, Chapter 234, Section 4, as amended and as further amended by Section 59 of this act) is repealed and a new Section 27-5-4 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"27-5-4. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Indigent Hospital and County Health Care Act:

A. "ambulance provider" or "ambulance service" means a specialized carrier based within the state authorized under provisions and subject to limitations as provided in individual carrier certificates issued by the state corporation commission to transport persons alive, dead or dying en route by means of ambulance service. The rates and charges established by state corporation commission tariff shall govern as to allowable cost. Also included are air ambulance services approved by the board. The air ambulance service charges shall be filed and approved pursuant to Subsection D of Section 27-5-6 NMSA 1978 and Section 27-5-11 NMSA 1978;

- B. "board" means a county indigent hospital and county health care board;
- C. "indigent patient" means a person to whom an ambulance service, a hospital or a health care provider has

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provided medical care or ambulance transportation and who can normally support himself and his dependents on present income and liquid assets available to him but, taking into consideration this income and those assets and his requirement for other necessities of life for himself and his dependents, is unable to pay the cost of the ambulance transportation or medical care administered or both. If provided by resolution of the board, it shall not include any person whose annual income together with his spouse's annual income totals an amount that is fifty percent greater than the per capita personal income for New Mexico as shown for the most recent year available in the survey of current business published by the United States department of commerce. Every board that has a balance remaining in the fund at the end of a given fiscal year shall consider and may adopt at the first meeting of the succeeding fiscal year a resolution increasing the standard for indigency. The term "indigent patient" includes a minor who has received ambulance transportation or medical care or both and whose parent or the person having custody of that minor would qualify as an indigent patient if transported by ambulance or admitted to a hospital for care or treated by a health care provider or all three;

D. "hospital" means any general or limited hospital licensed by the department, whether nonprofit or owned by a political subdivision, and may include by resolution of the

board the following health facilities if licensed, or in the case of out-of-state hospitals, approved, by the department:

- (1) for-profit hospitals;
- (2) state-owned hospitals; or
- (3) licensed out-of-state hospitals where treatment provided is necessary for the proper care of an indigent patient when that care is not available in an in-state hospital;
- E. "cost" means all allowable ambulance transportation or medical care costs, including the costs of prenatal care, to the extent determined by resolution of the board, for an indigent patient. Allowable costs shall be determined in accordance with a uniform system of accounting and cost analysis as determined by regulation of the board, which includes cost of ancillary services, but shall not include the cost of servicing long-term indebtedness of a hospital, health care provider or ambulance service;
- F. "fund" means a county indigent hospital claims fund;
- G. "medicaid eligible" means a person who is eligible for medical assistance from the department;
- H. "county" means any county except a class A county with a county hospital operated and maintained pursuant to a lease with a state educational institution named in Article 12, Section 11 of the constitution of New Mexico;

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- I. "department" means the department of health;
- J. "sole community provider hospital" means a hospital that is a sole community provider hospital under the provisions of the federal medicare guidelines established in 42 C.F.R. 412.92 pursuant to Title 18 of the federal Social Security Act;
- "drug rehabilitation center" means an agency of local government, a state agency, a private nonprofit entity or combination thereof that operates drug abuse rehabilitation programs that meet the standards and requirements pursuant to the Drug Abuse Act;
- "alcohol rehabilitation center" means an agency of local government, a state agency, a private nonprofit entity or combination thereof that operates alcohol abuse rehabilitation programs that meet the standards set by the department of health pursuant to the Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, Screening and Treatment Act;
- M "mental health center" means a not-for-profit center that provides outpatient mental health services that meet the standards set by the department pursuant to the Community Mental Health Services Act; and
 - N. "health care provider" means:
 - **(1)** a nursing home;
 - **(2)** an in-state home health agency;
 - (3) an in-state licensed hospice;

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- (4) a community-based health program operated by a political subdivision of the state or other nonprofit health organization that provides prenatal care delivered by New Mexico licensed, certified or registered health care practitioners;
- (5) a community-based health program operated by a political subdivision of the state or other nonprofit health care organization that provides primary care delivered by New Mexico licensed, certified or registered health care practitioners;
 - (6) a drug rehabilitation center;
 - (7) an alcohol rehabilitation center; or
 - (8) a mental health center. "

Section 61. Section 27-5-6.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 321, Section 18) is amended to read:

"27-5-6.1. SOLE COMMUNITY PROVIDER FUND CREATED. --

A. The "sole community provider fund" is created in the state treasury. The <u>sole community provider</u> fund, which shall be administered by the [human services] department, shall consist of funds provided by counties to match federal funds for medicaid sole community provider hospital payments. Money in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer as other state funds are invested. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall not revert.

B. Money in the sole community provider fund is		
appropriated to the [human services] department to make sole		
community provider hospital payments pursuant to the state		
medicaid program. No sole community provider hospital payments		
or money in the sole community provider fund shall be used to		
supplant any general fund support for the state medicaid		
program.		

C. Money in the sole community provider fund shall be remitted back to the individual counties from which it came if federal medicaid matching funds are not received for medicaid sole community provider hospital payments."

Section 62. Section 27-5-12.2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 321, Section 15) is amended to read:

"27-5-12.2. DUTIES OF THE COUNTY--SOLE COMMUNITY PROVIDER HOSPITAL PAYMENTS.--Every county in New Mexico that authorizes payment for services to a sole community provider hospital shall:

- A. determine eligibility for benefits and determine an amount payable on each claim for services to indigent patients from sole community provider hospitals;
- B. notify the sole community provider hospital of its decision on each request for payment while not actually reimbursing the hospital for the services that are reimbursed with federal funds under the state medicaid program;
 - C. confirm the amount of the sole community provider

hospital payments authorized for each hospital for the past fiscal year by September 30 of the current fiscal year;

- D. negotiate agreements with each sole community provider hospital providing services for county residents on the anticipated amount of the payments for the following fiscal year; and
- E. provide the [human services] department by January 15 of each year with the budgeted amount of sole community provider hospital payments, by hospital, for the following fiscal year."

Section 63. Section 27-6-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977, Chapter 252, Section 23) is amended to read:

"27-6-2. DEFINITION.--As used in the Utility Supplement
Act, ["health and social services department" or] "department"

[mean] means the income support division of the [human services]
workforce development department."

Section 64. Section 27-6-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 300, Section 3) is amended to read:

"27-6-4. ADMINISTRATION OF UTILITY SUPPLEMENT ACT.--The [health and social services] department is [hereby] authorized to determine eligibility, compute grants, make payments as provided in the Utility Supplement Act and otherwise administer that act."

Section 65. Section 27-6-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 300, Section 4) is amended to read:

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PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR UTILITY ASSISTANCE. **"27-6-5.**

- A utility supplement pursuant to the Utility Supplement Act shall be provided to or on behalf of those individuals who are identified:
- [those individuals who are identified] to **(1)** the [health and social services] department by the federal bureau of supplemental security income as recipients of supplemental security income under Title [XVI] 16 of the Social Security Act and who are not living in nursing homes or intermediate care facilities; and
- [those individuals who are identified] by the [health and social services] department as recipients of aid to families with dependent children under Section [13-17-9 NMSA 1953] 27-2-6 NMSA 1978, unless the individuals are living in circumstances [which] that do not require them to pay, either directly or indirectly, utility costs.
- В. No more than one utility supplement per household may be paid under the Utility Supplement Act [provided, however], but if supplemental security income recipients [and] or recipients of aid to families with dependent children are living in boarding home facilities, they shall be paid on an individual basis."

Section 27-6-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Section 66. Chapter 300, Section 5) is amended to read:

"27-6-6. TIME OF PAYMENTS. --

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A. The initial payment under the Utility Supplement
Act shall be made by the health and social services department
between December 1, 1975 and December 15, 1975 to those eligible
under the Utility Supplement Act as of December 1, 1975. The
initial payment shall be the equivalent of six months of
benefits under the Utility Supplement Act. In no case shall the
initial payment be greater than fifty-nine dollars (\$59.00).

B. Beginning with the month of January, 1976 and monthly thereafter] Payments shall be made monthly to those eligible for benefits under the Utility Supplement Act."

Section 67. Section 27-6-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 300, Section 6) is amended to read:

"27-6-7. AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.--The amount of the utility supplement payment <u>under the Utility Supplement Act</u> shall be calculated by the [health and social services] department so that the entire amount of state and federal funds available to it under the Utility Supplement Act shall be expended."

Section 68. Section 27-6-8 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 300, Section 7, as amended) is amended to read:

"27-6-8. ADJUSTMENTS TO MEET RATE INCREASES. --

A. The [income support division of the human services] department shall annually review the rate schedules of gas and electric companies in this state provided by the New Mexico public utility commission and, if necessary, shall recommend to the legislature adjustments in the amount of state

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utility supplements to reflect any increases or decreases in gas or electricity rates, or both.

B. The [income support division] department shall conduct its first rate review during the month of December 1975 and shall conduct a review during December annually thereafter."

Section 69. Section 27-6A-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 206, Section 3) is amended to read:

"27-6A-3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Low Income Water,
Sewer and Solid Waste Service Assistance Act:

A. "department" means the [human services] workforce development department; and

- B. "utility" means any individual, firm,
 partnership, company, district, including but not limited to
 solid waste district, water and sanitation district and special
 district, cooperative, association, public or private
 corporation, lessee, trustee or receiver appointed by any court,
 municipality and municipal utility as defined in the Municipal
 Code, incorporated county or county that may or does own,
 operate, lease or control any plant, property or facility for:
- (1) the supply, storage, distribution or furnishing of water to or for the public;
- (2) the supply and furnishing of sanitary sewer service to or for the public; or
- (3) the supply and furnishing of collection, transportation, treatment or disposal of solid waste to or for

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the public. "Utility" does not include a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the New Mexico public [service] utility commission."

Section 70. Section 27-8-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1983, Chapter 139, Section 3) is amended to read:

"27-8-3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Community Action Act:

A. "poverty level" means the official poverty level established by the federal director of the office of management and budget and revised periodically by the federal secretary of health and human services; and

B. "secretary" means the secretary of [human services] workforce development."

Section 71. Section 27-8-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1983, Chapter 139, Section 9) is amended to read:

"27-8-9. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE--LIMITATIONS.--The secretary, consistent with federal law, shall make grants of not less than ninety percent of the annual allocation of funds available under the community services block grant to community action agencies defined in Subsection A of Section [5 of the Community Action Act] 27-8-5 NMSA 1978. The [human services] workforce development department is authorized to implement, by regulation or contract, a limitation on the amount of community services block grant funds allocated to administrative costs."

Section 72. Section 27-9-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1983,

Chapter 323, Section 1) is amended to read:

"27-9-1. PROGRAM - DEMONSTRATIONS. -- The [human services] workforce development department, in cooperation with the department of health [and environment department], is authorized to administer demonstration programs [which] that provide inhome and coordinated community care services to the frail elderly and to disabled individuals who would otherwise require institutionalization. The programs authorized by this section shall serve both those eligible and not eligible for federal medical assistance programs."

Section 73. Section 27-9-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1983, Chapter 323, Section 2) is amended to read:

"27-9-2. IMPLEMENTATION.--The secretary of [human services] workforce development shall, by regulation, specify the areas in which the programs shall operate, specify the services to be provided, establish eligibility criteria of persons to be served and provide for cost sharing, where possible, with individuals and participating communities."

Section 74. Section 28-1-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969, Chapter 196, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"28-1-2. DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the Human Rights Act:

A. "person" means one or more individuals, a partnership, association, organization, corporation, joint venture, legal representative, trustees, receivers or the state and all of its political subdivisions;

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- В. "employer" means any person employing four or more persons and any person acting for an employer;
 - C. "commission" means the human rights commission;
- D. ["director"] "chief" means the [director] chief of the human rights [division] bureau of the [labor] workforce <u>development</u> department;
- "employee" means any person in the employ of an Ε. employer or an applicant for employment;
- "labor organization" means any organization [which] that exists for the purpose in whole or in part of collective bargaining or of dealing with employers concerning grievances, terms or conditions of employment or of other mutual aid or protection in connection with employment;
- "employment agency" means any person regularly undertaking with or without compensation to procure opportunities to work or to procure, recruit or refer employees;
- "public accommodation" means any establishment H. that provides or offers its services, facilities, accommodations or goods to the public, but does not include a bona fide private club or other place or establishment [which] that is by its nature and use distinctly private;
- Ι. "housing accommodation" means any building or portion of a building [which] that is constructed or to be constructed, [which] that is used or intended for use as the residence or sleeping place of any individual;

workforce development;

J. "real property" means lands, leaseholds or
commercial or industrial buildings, whether constructed or to be
constructed, offered for sale or rent, and any land rented or
leased for the use, parking or storage of house trailers;
K. "secretary" means the secretary of [labor]

- L. "unlawful discriminatory practices" means those unlawful practices and acts specified in Section 28-1-7 NMSA 1978:
- M "physical or mental handicap" means a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of an individual's major life activities. An individual is also considered to be physically or mentally handicapped if he has a record of a physical or mental handicap or is regarded as having a physical or mental handicap;
- N. "major life activities" means functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working; [and]
- 0. "applicant for employment" means a person applying for a position as an employee; and
- P. "bureau" means the human rights bureau of the workforce development department."

Section 75. Section 28-1-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987, Chapter 342, Section 18) is amended to read:

"28-1-4. POWERS AND DUTIES. --

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A. The commission may:

- $(1) \ \ hear \ complaints \ and \ issue \ orders, \ including$ cease and desist orders concerning alleged unlawful discriminatory practice; \underline{and}
- hold hearings, subpoena witnesses and **(2)** compel their attendance, administer oaths, take the testimony of any person under oath, order depositions and require the production for examination of any books, records, correspondence, documents and other evidence relating to any matter under investigation or in question before the commission. Contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena issued pursuant to this section constitutes contempt punishable by the district court of the judicial district in which the witness may be found. individual shall be excused from attending and testifying or from producing evidence in obedience to a subpoena issued pursuant to this section on the grounds that the testimony or evidence required of him may tend to incriminate him or subject him to a penalty or a forfeiture. However, no individual shall be prosecuted or subjected to any penalty or forfeiture concerning any matter for which he is compelled to testify or give evidence after having claimed his right against selfincrimination. Nevertheless, the individual so testifying shall not be exempt from prosecution and punishment for perjury committed while testifying.
 - B. The [division] bureau may:

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- receive and investigate complaints of (1) alleged unlawful discriminatory practice;
- seek to eliminate discrimination through **(2)** conciliation and persuasion by voluntary conferences with interested parties;
- recommend application by the [director] chief to a district court in the county where the violating party resides for specific performance of any conciliation agreement or for enforcement of any order issued by the commission:
- **(4)** endeavor to eliminate prejudice and to further good will. The [division] bureau, in cooperation with the state department of public education and local boards of education, shall encourage an educational program for all residents of the state, calculated to eliminate prejudice, its harmful effects and its incompatibility with principles of fair play, equality and justice;
- encourage voluntary advisory groups to **(5)** study problems of discrimination in all fields, to foster, through community efforts, good will and cooperation in this state and to make recommendations to the secretary for the development of policies and procedures [which] that the secretary may recommend to appropriate state agencies;
- seek and enlist the cooperation and **(6)** contributions and grants of individuals and foundations,

private, charitable, religious, labor, civic and benevolent organizations and the federal government for the purposes of this section:

- (7) issue publications and release the results of investigation and research [which] that in the secretary's judgment will tend to promote good will and prevent or eliminate discrimination; and
- (8) submit annually a written report of all its activities and recommendations to the secretary, the governor and the legislature."

Section 76. Section 28-1-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969, Chapter 196, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

"28-1-10. GRI EVANCE PROCEDURE. --

- A. Any person claiming to be aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice and any member of the commission who has reason to believe that discrimination has occurred may file with the [human rights division of the labor department] bureau a written complaint that shall state the name and address of the person alleged to have engaged in the discriminatory practice, all information relating to the discriminatory practice and any other information that may be required by the commission. All complaints shall be filed with the [division] bureau within one hundred eighty days after the alleged act was committed.
 - B. The [director] chief shall advise the respondent

that a complaint has been filed against him and shall furnish him with a copy of the complaint. The [director] chief shall promptly investigate the alleged act. If the [director] chief determines that the complaint lacks probable cause, he shall dismiss the complaint and notify the complainant and respondent of the dismissal. The complaint shall be dismissed subject to appeal as in the case of other orders of the commission.

- C. If the [director] chief determines that probable cause exists for the complaint, he shall attempt to achieve a satisfactory adjustment of the complaint through persuasion and conciliation. The [director] chief and bureau staff shall neither disclose what has transpired during the attempted conciliation nor divulge information obtained during any hearing before the commission or a commissioner prior to final action relating to the complaint. Any officer or employee of the [labor] workforce development department who makes public in any manner whatever any information in violation of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or imprisoned not more than one year.
- D. Any person who has filed a complaint with the [human rights division] bureau may request and shall receive an order of nondetermination from the [director] chief one hundred eighty days after the [division's] bureau's receipt of the complaint. The order of nondetermination may be appealed

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pursuant to the provisions of Section 28-1-13 NMSA 1978.

E. In the case of a complaint filed by or on behalf of a person who has an urgent medical condition and has notified the [director] chief in writing of the test results, the [director] chief shall make the determination whether probable cause exists for the complaint and shall attempt any conciliation efforts within ninety days of the filing of the written complaint or notification, whichever occurs last.

If conciliation fails or if, in the opinion of the [director] chief, informal conference cannot result in conciliation and the complainant has not requested a waiver of right to hearing pursuant to the provisions of Subsection J of this section, the commission shall issue a written complaint in its own name against the respondent, except that in the case of a complaint filed by or on behalf of a person who has an urgent medical condition, who has notified the [director] chief in writing of the test results and who so elects, the [director] chief shall issue an order of nondetermination, which may be appealed pursuant to the provisions of Section 28-1-13 NMSA The complaint shall set forth the alleged discriminatory practice, the secretary's regulation or the section of the Human Rights Act alleged to have been violated and the relief The complaint shall require the respondent to answer requested. the allegations of the complaint at a hearing before the commission or hearing officer and shall specify the date, time

and place of the hearing. The hearing date shall not be more than fifteen or less than ten days after service of the complaint. The complaint shall be served on the respondent personally or by registered mail, return receipt requested. The hearing shall be held in the county where the respondent is doing business or the alleged discriminatory practice occurred.

- G. Within one year of the filing of a complaint by a person aggrieved, the commission or [its director] the chief shall:
- (1) dismiss the complaint for lack of probable cause:
- (2) achieve satisfactory adjustment of the complaint as evidenced by order of the commission; or
- (3) file a formal complaint on behalf of the commission.
- H. Upon the commission's petition, the district court of the county where the respondent is doing business or the alleged discriminatory practice occurred may grant injunctive relief pending hearing by the commission or pending judicial review of an order of the commission so as to preserve the status quo or to ensure that the commission's order as issued will be effective. The commission shall not be required to post a bond.
- I. For purposes of this section, "urgent medical condition" means any medical condition as defined by an

appropriate medical authority through documentation or by direct witness of a clearly visible disablement and [which] that poses a serious threat to the life of the person with the medical condition.

J. The complainant may seek a trial de novo in the district court in lieu of a hearing before the commission, provided the complainant requests from the [director] chief, in writing, a waiver of complainant's right to hearing within sixty days of service of written notice of a probable cause determination by the [director] chief. The [director] chief shall approve the waiver request and shall serve notice of the waiver upon the complainant and respondent. The complainant may request a trial de novo pursuant to Section 28-1-13 NMSA 1978 within thirty days from the date of service of the waiver. Issuance of the notice shall be deemed a final order of the commission for the purpose of appeal pursuant to Section 28-1-13 NMSA 1978."

Section 77. Section 28-1-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969, Chapter 196, Section 10, as amended) is amended to read:

"28-1-11. HEARING PROCEDURES. --

A. The respondent to a complaint made pursuant to Section 28-1-10 NMSA 1978 may file a written answer to the complaint, appear at the hearing, give testimony and be represented by counsel and may obtain from the commission subpoenas for any person or for the production of any evidence

pertinent to the proceeding. The complainant shall be present at the hearing and may be represented by counsel. Each party shall have the right to amend his complaint or answer.

- B. A panel of three members of the commission designated by the chairman shall sit, and a decision agreed upon by two members of the panel shall be the decision of the commission. However, no commissioner who has filed a complaint may sit on the panel hearing his complaint.

 Hearings also may be conducted by a hearing officer employed by the [human rights division of the labor department] bureau or, if the hearing officer is unavailable, one member of the commission may be designated by the chairman to act as a hearing officer. A hearing officer shall have the same powers and duties as a commissioner as set forth in Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of Section 28-1-4 NMSA 1978.
- C. The complainant or his representative shall present to the commission or the hearing officer the case supporting the complaint. No evidence concerning prior attempts at conciliation shall be received. The [director] chief shall not participate in the hearing, except as a witness.
- D. The commission and the hearing officer shall not be bound by the formal rules of evidence governing courts of law or equity but shall permit reasonable direct examination and cross-examination and the submission of briefs. Testimony at the hearing shall be taken under oath and recorded by tape or

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otherwise. Upon the request of any party, testimony shall be transcribed; provided that all costs of transcribing shall be paid by the party so requesting. Each commissioner and hearing officer may administer oaths.

E. Upon the conclusion of a hearing conducted by a hearing officer, the hearing officer shall prepare a written report setting forth proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law and recommending the action to be taken by the commission. The hearing officer shall submit the report to a review panel consisting of no more than three members of the commission designated by the chairman. No commissioner may sit on the panel reviewing the hearing officer's report issued in connection with a complaint filed by the commissioner. decision by a majority of the members of the review panel shall be the decision of the commission. If the commission finds from the evidence presented at any hearing held pursuant to this section that the respondent has engaged in a discriminatory practice, it shall make written findings of fact, conclusions of law and its decision based upon the findings of fact and conclusions of law. The commission may adopt, modify or reject the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law and the action recommended by the hearing officer. Within five days after any order is rendered by the commission following a hearing, the commission shall serve upon each party of record and his attorney, if any, a written copy of the order by

certified mail to the party's address of record. All parties shall be deemed to have been served on the tenth day following the mailing. As part of its order, the commission may require the respondent to pay actual damages to the complainant and to pay reasonable [attorneys'] attorney fees, if the complainant was represented by private counsel, and to take such affirmative action as the commission considers necessary, including a requirement for reports of the manner of compliance.

F. If the commission finds from the evidence that the respondent has not engaged in a discriminatory practice, it shall make written findings of fact and serve the complainant and respondent with a copy of the findings of fact and with an order dismissing the complaint."

Section 78. Section 28-1-13 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969, Chapter 196, Section 12, as amended) is amended to read:

"28-1-13. APPEAL. --

A. Any person aggrieved by an order of the commission may obtain a trial de novo in the district court of the county where the discriminatory practice occurred or where the respondent does business by filing a notice of appeal within thirty days from the date of service of the commission's order. A copy of the notice of appeal shall be served personally or by certified mail, return receipt requested, at their last known address on all parties who appeared before the commission and shall also be served at the [division] bureau office in Santa

Fe. No order of the commission shall be superseded or stayed during the appeal unless the district court so directs after notice to the commission and a hearing.

- B. If testimony at the hearing was transcribed, the [division] bureau shall, upon receipt of the notice of appeal, file so much of the transcript of the record as the parties requesting the transcript designate as necessary for the appeal with the district court.
- C. Upon appeal, either party may request a jury. The jurisdiction of the district court is exclusive and its judgment is final, subject to further appeal to the [supreme] court of appeals.
- D. In any action or proceeding under this section if the complainant prevails, the court in its discretion may allow actual damages and reasonable [attorney's] attorney fees, and the state shall be liable the same as a private person."

Section 79. Section 50-4-21 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1955, Chapter 200, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-4-21. DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the Minimum Wage Act:

- A. "employ" includes suffer or permit to work;
- B. "employer" [includes any] means individual,
 partnership, association, corporation, business trust, legal
 representative or [any] organized group of persons employing one
 or more employees at any one time, acting directly or indirectly
 in the interest of an employer in relation to any employee, but

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24	commission basis;
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shall not include the United States, the state or any political subdivision thereof; [and]

- C. "employee" [includes any] <u>means an</u> individual employed by [any] <u>an</u> employer, but [shall] <u>does</u> not include:
- (1) [any] an individual employed in domestic service in or about a private home;
- (2) [any] an individual employed in a bona fide executive, administrative or professional capacity and foremen, superintendents and supervisors:
- (3) [any] an individual employed by the United States or by the state or any political subdivision thereof;
- (4) [any] an individual engaged in the activities of an educational, charitable, religious or nonprofit organization where the employer-employee relationship does not, in fact, exist or where the services rendered to such organizations are on a voluntary basis [The employer-employee relationship shall not be deemed to exist with respect to any];
- (5) an individual being served for purposes of rehabilitation by a charitable or nonprofit organization, notwithstanding the payment to the individual of a stipend based upon the value of the work performed by the individual;
- [(5) salesmen or employees] (6) a salesperson or employee compensated upon piecework, flat rate schedules or commission basis:
 - [(6) students] <u>(7) a student</u> regularly

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Underscored naterial	[bracketed material]	

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	[(7)] <u>(8)</u>	<u>a</u> registered [apprentices and
learners]	apprentice or lea	rner otherwise	provided by law;

[(8) persons] (9) a person eighteen years of age or under who [are] is not [students] a student in a primary, secondary, vocational or training school;

[(9) persons] (10) a person eighteen years of age or under who [are] is not [graduates] a graduate of a secondary school;

[(10) persons] (11) a person employed by ambulance services:

[(12)] (13) a seasonal [employees] employee of [any] an employer obtaining and holding a valid certificate issued annually by the [state] chief of the labor [commissioner] and industrial bureau of the workforce development department. The certificate shall state the job designations and total number of employees to be exempted. In approving or disapproving an application for a certificate of exemption, the [commissioner] bureau chief shall consider the following:

(a) whether [such] the employment [shall] will be at an educational, charitable or religious youth camp or retreat;

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(b) [that such] whether the employment
will be of a temporary nature;
(c) [that] whether the individual will be
furnished his room and board in connection with $[{\color{red} {such}}]$ ${\color{red} {\underline{the}}}$
employment, or if the camp or retreat is a day camp or retreat,
the individual will be furnished board in connection with [such]
the employment;
(d) the purposes for which the camp or
retreat is operated;
(e) the job classifications for the
positions to be exempted; and
(f) any other factors that the
[commissioner] bureau chief deems necessary to consider;
[(13) any] <u>(14) an</u> employee employed in
agri cul ture:
(a) if [such] the employee is employed by
an employer who did not, during any calendar quarter during the
preceding calendar year, use more than five hundred man-days of
agricultural labor;

(b) if [such] the employee is the parent, spouse, child or other member of his employer's immediate family; for the purpose of this [subsection] subparagraph, employer shall include the principal stockholder of a family corporation;

(c) if [such] the employee: 1) is

employed as a hand-harvest laborer and is paid on a piece-rate basis in an operation [which] that has been, and is customarily and generally recognized as having been, paid on a piece-rate basis in the region of employment; 2) commutes daily from his permanent residence to the farm on which he is so employed; and 3) has been employed in agriculture less than thirteen weeks during the preceding calendar year;

(d) if [such] the employee, other than an employee described in Subparagraph (c) of this paragraph: 1) is sixteen years of age or under and is employed as a hand-harvest laborer, is paid on a piece-rate basis in an operation [which] that has been, and is generally recognized as having been, paid on a piece-rate basis in the region of employment; 2) is employed on the same farm as his parent or person standing in the place of his parent; and 3) is paid at the same piece-rate as employees over age sixteen are paid on the same farm; or

(e) if [such] the employee is principally engaged in the range production of livestock; or

[(14) employees] (15) an employee of a charitable, religious or nonprofit [organizations] organization who [reside] resides on the premises of a group [homes] home operated by [such] the charitable, religious or nonprofit [organizations] organization for mentally retarded or emotionally or developmentally disabled persons; and

D. "secretary means the secretary of workforce

development. "

Section 80. Section 50-4-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1967, Chapter 242, Section 1) is amended to read:

"50-4-23. HANDI CAPPED PERSONS--MINIMUM WAGE--[LABOR COMMISSIONER] SECRETARY POWERS AND DUTIES.--

A. The [state labor commissioner] secretary, to the extent necessary in order to prevent curtailment of opportunities for employment, shall, by regulation, provide for the employment under special certificates of individuals, including individuals employed in agriculture, whose earning or productive capacity is impaired by physical or mental deficiency or injury, at wages [which] that are lower than the minimum wage applicable under Section [59-3-22 New Mexico Statutes Annotated, 1953 Compilation] 50-4-22 NMSA 1978, but not less than fifty percent of [such] that wage.

B. The [state labor commissioner] secretary, pursuant to his regulations and upon certification of any state agency administering or supervising the administration of vocational rehabilitation services, may issue special certificates [which] that allow the holder [thereof] to work at wages [which] that are less than those required by Subsection A of this section and [which] that are related to the workers' productivity, for the employment of:

(1) handicapped workers engaged in work [which]

that is incidental to training or evaluation programs; and

- (2) multihandicapped individuals and other individuals whose earning capacity is so severely impaired that they are unable to engage in competitive employment.
- C. The [state labor commissioner] secretary may, by regulation or order, provide for the employment of handicapped individuals in work activities centers under special certificates at wages [which] that are less than the minimums applicable under Section [59-2-22 New Mexico Statutes Annotated, 1953 Compilation] 50-4-22 NMSA 1978, or less than that prescribed in Subsection A of this section, and [which] that constitute equitable compensation for [such] the individuals. As used in this subsection, "work activities centers" means centers planned and designed exclusively to provide therapeutic activities for handicapped persons whose physical or mental impairment is so severe as to make their productive capacity inconsequential.
- D. The state agency administering or supervising the administration of vocational rehabilitation may issue a temporary certificate for a period not to exceed ninety days pursuant to Subsections A, B and C of this section and may request an extension of the certification by the [state labor commissioner] secretary when it is determined that the severity of disability of an individual or circumstances warrants an extension of the certification."

Section 81. Section 50-4-26 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1955,

Chapter 200,	Secti on	5, as	amended)	is an	mended to	read:	
"50-4	- 26. ENF	ORCEMEN	NT PENAL'	TI ES-	- EMPLOYEE	S' REMEDIES.	

[A. Penalties:

(1)] A. Any employer who violates any of the foregoing provisions shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars [(\$25)] (\$25.00) or more than three hundred dollars (\$300) or by imprisonment for not less than ten nor more than ninety days or by both such fine and imprisonment.

[(2)] B. It [shall be] is the duty of the [state] labor [commissioner] and industrial bureau of the workforce development department to enforce and prosecute violations of the Minimum Wage Act. The [labor commissioner] bureau is hereby empowered to institute in the name of the state [of New Mexico] an action in the district court of the county wherein the employer who has failed to comply with the Minimum Wage Act resides or has his principal office or place of business, for the purpose of prosecuting violations. It shall be the duty of the district attorney for the district wherein any violation hereof occurs to aid and assist the [labor commissioner] bureau in the prosecution thereof.

[B. Employees' remedies:

(1)] <u>C.</u> Any employer who violates any provision of Section [59-3-22 New Mexico Statutes Annotated, 1953

Compilation] 50-4-22 NMSA 1978 shall be liable to the employees

affected in the amount of their unpaid minimum wages, as the case may be, and in an additional equal amount as liquidated damages.

[(2)] <u>D.</u> Action to recover [such] the liability may be maintained in any court of competent jurisdiction by any one or more employees for and in behalf of himself or themselves and other employees similarly situated, or such employee or employees may designate an agent or representative to maintain such action before and in behalf of all employees similarly situated.

<u>E.</u> The court in any action brought under [Paragraph (2)] Subsection D of this section shall, in addition to any judgment awarded to the plaintiff or plaintiffs, allow costs of the action and reasonable [attorneys'] attorney fees to be paid by the defendant. In any proceedings brought pursuant to the provisions of this section, the employee shall not be required to pay any filing fee or other court costs necessarily incurred in such proceedings."

Section 82. Section 50-4-27 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1967, Chapter 188, Section 5) is amended to read:

"50-4-27. AUTHORITY OF [LABOR COMMISSIONER] SECRETARY OF

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TO ADOPT AND PROMULGATE RULES AND

REGULATIONS--HEARING ON RULES AND REGULATIONS--NOTICE-
PUBLICATION. -- The [state labor commissioner shall have]

secretary has the authority to adopt and promulgate [and issue]

rules and regulations necessary to administer and accomplish the purposes of the Minimum Wage Act. Such rules and regulations shall be [aodpted] adopted after notice and public hearing. A copy of the notice of hearing together with a copy of the proposed regulations shall be filed with the librarian of the supreme court library at least twenty days prior to the hearing. In addition, a copy of the notice of hearing shall be sent to all known interested persons. Any interested person shall have the right to appear and present evidence. Rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this section shall be filed in accordance with the State Rules Act."

Section 83. Section 50-5-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1931, Chapter 109, Section 3) is amended to read:

"50-5-12. <u>DUTY OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL BUREAU</u>.--It [shall be] is the duty of the labor [commissioner] and industrial bureau of the workforce development department to [see] ensure that the provisions of [this Act] Sections 50-5-10 through 50-5-12 NMSA 1978 are enforced."

Section 84. Section 50-6-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1925, Chapter 79, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-6-7. LABOR PERMIT CERTIFICATES--ISSUANCE--AUTHORIZED

OFFICIALS--APPLICATION--CONTENTS--PROOF--COPIES--MAXIMUM TERM --

A. Permit certificates shall be issued only by the school superintendents, school principals, designated issuing school officers or [the director of] the labor and industrial

[division] bureau of the [labor] workforce development department [or the director's designee].

- B. No permit certificate shall be issued to any child until satisfactory proof has been furnished that the work in which the child is to engage is not dangerous to the child [nor] and not injurious to his health or morals.
- Show that the child is in good physical health and that the work to be performed would not result in injury to the health, morals or mental development of the child. Satisfactory proof of the age of the child at the date of the application shall be furnished. In the case of children over the age of fourteen years and under the age of sixteen years, any application for the employment of children at any gainful occupation during the session hours of the school of the district in which the child resides shall set forth, in addition to the foregoing, the necessity to the family or the dependents of the child or for his own support of the income to be derived from the employment or labor.
- D. Whenever the person authorized to issue the labor permit is satisfied that the provisions of this section have been complied with, he shall issue to the child a labor permit, keeping one copy on file and sending one copy of this permit to the labor and industrial [commission] bureau of the workforce development department.

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E. No permit certificate shall be in force without renewal for a longer period than one year from the date of issuance. "

Section 85. Section 50-6-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1925, Chapter 79, Section 11, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-6-10. INSPECTION OF CERTIFICATES, RECORDS AND PREMISES BY LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL [COMMISSION] BUREAU. -- All employment certificates and records and the premises where children are employed are subject to inspection by representatives of the labor and industrial [commission] bureau of the workforce development department. The [commission] bureau may, for cause, cancel any labor permit with the concurrence of the officer issuing the permit but, in case they disagree, the district court may cancel the permit on complaint setting forth the grounds therefor under the provisions of Sections [59-6-1 through 59-6-15 NMSA 1953] 50-6-1 through 50-6-16 NMSA 1978."

Section 50-6-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1925, Section 86. Chapter 79, Section 15, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-6-14. STATE CHILD LABOR INSPECTOR--APPOINTMENT--DIRECTION--QUALIFICATIONS.--There shall be a "state child labor inspector", appointed by [and subject to] the [labor commissioner] secretary of workforce development. The inspector [must] shall be qualified by special training and experience for this work [and must pass a satisfactory examination given by the

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labor commissioner for this purpose]. This position shall be covered by and subject to the provisions of the Personnel Act."

Section 87. Section 50-7-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1957, Chapter 219, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL. -- An "apprenticeship council", hereinafter referred to as the "council", shall be appointed by the [director of the labor and industrial division of the department of labor] secretary of workforce development without regard to any other provisions of law regarding the appointment and compensation of employees of the state. shall consist of three persons known to represent employers, three persons known to represent labor organizations, three public representatives and shall include, as ex-officio members without vote, the [director] chief of the labor and industrial [division] bureau and the state supervisor of trade and industrial education. Persons appointed to the council [must] <u>shall</u> be familiar with apprenticeable occupations. The terms of office of the members of the council first appointed shall expire as designated by the [director] secretary at the time of making the appointment: one representative each of employers, labor organizations and the public being appointed for one year; one representative each of employers, labor organizations and the public being appointed for two years and one representative each of employers, labor organizations and the public being appointed for three years. Thereafter, each member shall be

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appointed for a term of three years. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term of his predecessor shall be appointed for the remainder of that term. Members of the council not otherwise compensated by public money shall be reimbursed for their official duties in accordance with the Per Diem and Mileage Act for attendance at not in excess of twelve meetings per year."

Section 88. Section 50-7-4.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1979, Chapter 204, Section 12, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-7-4.1. ADMINISTRATION. -- The [commissioner of labor] secretary of workforce development shall appoint a director of apprenticeship to be responsible for effectuating the policies set forth in Section 50-7-1 NMSA 1978, to carry out the policies approved by the apprenticeship council and otherwise to execute the provisions of Chapter 50, Article 7 NMSA 1978. Such appointment shall be subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the council. The [commissioner of labor] secretary shall appoint the director and such additional personnel as may be necessary, subject to such laws and practices as are applicable to appointment, service and compensation of employees of the state. Under the general direction of the [commissioner of labor secretary, the director in furtherance of the duties specified shall:

A. encourage the voluntary participation of employers and employees in the furtherance of the objectives of

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Chapter 50, Article 7 NMSA 1978;

- B. devise necessary procedures and records;
- C. prepare statistical reports regarding apprenticeship;
 - D. issue information related to apprenticeship; and
- E. perform such other duties as are necessary to carry out the intent of Chapter 50, Article 7 NMSA 1978."

Section 89. Section 50-8-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1934 (S.S.), Chapter 15, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-8-2. AGENCY OF STATE FOR PURPOSE OF FEDERAL ACT. -- The employment security <u>division of the workforce development</u> department is hereby designated and constituted the agency of the state of New Mexico for the purpose of [such] the federal act, with full power to establish such public employment offices throughout the state of New Mexico as it may deem necessary to fully carry out the purposes, to employ such agents, clerks and employees as are necessary therefor, with full power to cooperate with all authorities of the United States having powers or duties under [said] that act of congress and to do and perform all things necessary to secure to this state the benefits of [said] the federal act in the promotion and maintenance of a system of public employment offices. All funds made available to this state under [said] that act of congress shall, upon receipt thereof, be paid into the general fund of the state treasury and are hereby appropriated therefrom to be

expended by the department as provided by the act of congre	ess
and by [this act] Section 50-8-1 NMSA 1978 and this section	<u>1</u> . "
Section 90. Section 50-9-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 197	72,
Chapter 63 Section 3 as amended) is amended to read:	

"50-9-3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Occupational Health and Safety Act:

- A. "person" means any individual, partnership, firm, public or private corporation, association, trust, estate, political subdivision or agency or any other legal entity or their legal representatives, agents or assigns;
- B. "employee" means an individual who is employed by an employer, but does not include a domestic employee or a volunteer nonsalaried firefighter;
- C. "employer" means any person who has one or more employees, but does not include the United States;
- D. "board" means the [environmental improvement board; secretary of workforce development;
- E. "department" means the workforce development
 department [of environment];
- F. "place of employment" means any place, area or environment in or about which an employee is required or permitted to work;
- G. "commission" means the occupational health and safety review commission established [under] pursuant to provisions of the Occupational Health and Safety Act;

- H. "chemical" means any element, chemical compound or mixture of elements or compounds;
- I. "hazardous chemical" means any chemical or combination of chemicals that has been labeled hazardous by the chemical manufacturer, importer or distributor in accordance with regulations promulgated by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970;
- J. "label" means any written, printed or graphic material displayed on or affixed to containers of chemicals [which] that identifies the chemical as hazardous;
- K. "material safety data sheet" means written or printed material concerning a hazardous chemical that contains information on the identity listed on the label, the chemical and common names of the hazardous ingredients, the physical and health hazards, the primary route of entry, the exposure limits, any generally applicable control measures, any emergency or first aid procedures, the date of preparation and the name, address and telephone number of the chemical manufacturer, importer, employer or other responsible party preparing or distributing the material safety data sheet;
- L. "mobile work site" means any place of employment in standard industrial classification codes 13, oil and gas extraction, and 15 through 17, construction, where work is performed in a different location than the principal office in a fixed location used by the employer; and

M. "secretary" means the secretary of [environment] workforce development."

Section 91. Section 50-9-5.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987, Chapter 178, Section 3) is amended to read:

"50-9-5.1. EMPLOYER DUTIES--HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS.--

- A. All incoming containers labeled as hazardous shall be subject to this section. The employer shall not remove or deface any label [which] that indicates on an incoming container that a chemical is hazardous, unless the container is immediately marked with the required information.
- B. Each employer shall obtain and maintain material safety data sheets for each chemical used in his place of employment and labeled as hazardous. Each employer shall ensure that the information on material safety data sheets for hazardous chemicals is readily accessible to employees during each work shift. The [board] secretary shall adopt and promulgate regulations [which] that assure reasonable compliance with this provision at mobile work sites. If a material safety data sheet has not been supplied from the manufacturer, importer or distributor of the hazardous chemical, the employer shall obtain the material safety data sheet by writing the manufacturer, importer or distributor and requesting that he send the material safety data sheet immediately.
- C. Each employer shall maintain a current inventory of all chemicals that have been labeled as hazardous in his

place of employment.

- D. Each employer shall develop and implement a written hazard communication program for his place of employment [which] that describes how the criteria specified for labels and other forms of warning, material safety data sheets and employee information and training will be met and [which] that also includes the following:
- (1) a list of the hazardous chemicals known to be present, using an identity that is referenced on the appropriate material safety data sheet. The list may be compiled for the place of employment as a whole or for individual work areas:
- (2) the methods the employer will use to inform employees of the hazards of nonroutine tasks, for example, the cleaning of reactor vessels and the hazards associated with chemicals contained in unlabeled pipes in their work areas; and
- (3) the methods the employer will use to inform any contract employers whose employees work in the employer's place of business of the hazardous chemicals their employees may be exposed to while performing their work and any suggestions for appropriate protective measures.

The employer may rely on an existing hazard communication program to comply with these requirements provided that it meets the provisions of this subsection. The employer shall make the written hazard communication program available upon request to

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employees, their designated representatives and the occupational health and safety bureau of the [environmental improvement division of the health and environment] department.

- E. Each employer shall provide employees with information and training on hazardous chemicals they use or may become exposed to during the course of employment.
- F. The requirements of Subsection E of this section shall not apply to any hazardous chemical received by an employer in a sealed package or container and subsequently sold or transferred if the seal is maintained.
- G. Nothing in this section shall supersede any other requirements in the Occupational Health and Safety Act."

Section 92. Section 50-9-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1972, Chapter 63, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-9-6. TRAINING--ASSISTANCE--CONSULTATION--RESEARCH.--

- A. The department shall provide for the establishment and supervision of programs for the education and training of employers and employees in the recognition, avoidance and prevention of unsafe working conditions in employment and places of employment and consult with, advise and assist employers and employees about effective means of preventing occupational injuries and illnesses.
- B. Upon an employer's request, the department shall provide an on-site consultation inspection of conditions and practices of the employer's [work place] workplace without

issuing citations or proposing penalties for violations noted, provided that imminent danger situations found during the onsite consultative visit [must] shall be pointed out to the employer. In the event the imminent danger is pointed out by the department consultant but immediate steps are not taken by the employer to eliminate [such] the danger, the emergency procedures provided in Section 50-9-14 NMSA 1978 shall be pursued by the department to assure timely abatement of the imminent danger situation.

- C. The secretary is responsible for programs involving research in occupational health and safety, for surveys and recommendations for occupational health and safety programs and for promotional, educational and advisory activities in occupational health and safety.
- D. The [board or the] secretary may appoint special committees composed of technicians or professionals specializing in occupational health or safety to assist in carrying out the objectives of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. Members of such committees shall be reimbursed as provided in the Per Diem and Mileage Act."

Section 93. Section 50-9-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1972, Chapter 63, Section 7, as amended) is amended to read:

- "50-9-7. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE [BOARD] SECRETARY. --
- A. The [board] secretary shall adopt and promulgate regulations that are and will continue to be at least as

effective as standards promulgated pursuant to the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to prevent or abate detriment to the health and safety of employees. In adopting, amending and repealing [its] his regulations, the [board] secretary shall provide an opportunity for representatives of employers and employees affected by the regulations to be heard and shall give weight it deems appropriate to all relevant facts and circumstances presented at the public hearing, including but not limited to:

- (1) character and degree of injury to or interference with the health and safety of employees proposed to be abated or prevented by the regulation;
- (2) technical practicability and economic reasonableness of the regulation and the existence of alternatives to the prevention or abatement of detriment to the health and safety of employees proposed by the regulation; and
- (3) the public interest, including the social and economic effects of work-related accidents, injuries and illnesses.
- B. In promulgating regulations dealing with toxic materials or harmful physical agents, the [board] secretary shall provide regulations that most adequately assure to the extent feasible, on the basis of the best available technology, that no employee will suffer material impairment of health or functional capacity even if the employee has regular exposure to

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the hazard dealt with by the regulations for a period of his working life. Whenever practicable, the regulation promulgated shall be expressed in terms of objective criteria and of the performance desired.

The regulation shall prescribe the use of labels or other appropriate forms of warning as are necessary to [insure] ensure that employees are apprised of all hazards to which they are exposed, relevant symptoms and appropriate emergency treatment and proper conditions and precautions of safe use or exposure. Where appropriate, the standard shall also prescribe suitable protective equipment and control or technological procedures to be used in connection with the hazards and shall provide for monitoring or measuring employee exposure at such locations and intervals and in such manner as may be necessary for the protection of employees. In addition, where appropriate, any such standard shall prescribe the type and frequency of medical examinations or other tests [which] that shall be made available, by the employer or at his cost, to employees exposed to the hazards in order to most effectively determine whether the health of the employees is adversely affected by the exposure. Cost of medical examinations for research as ordered by the secretary shall be paid for by the Results of examinations shall be made available to department. the secretary, to the employer and, upon the request of the employee, to the employee's physician. The [board] secretary

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may make appropriate modifications in the foregoing requirements relating to the use of labels or other forms of warning, monitoring or measuring and medical examinations as may be warranted by experience, information or medical or technological developments acquired subsequent to the promulgation of the relevant standard."

Section 50-9-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1972, Section 94. Chapter 63, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-9-10. RIGHT OF ENTRY AND INSPECTION--COMPLAINTS--CONSULTATION -- NOTI FI CATION. --

In order to carry out the purposes of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, the department's authorized representatives, upon presenting appropriate credentials to the owner, operator or agent in charge, are authorized to and may:

- enter and inspect any place of employment at reasonable times and without delay; and
- question privately the employer and (2)employees and to inspect and investigate during regular working hours and at other reasonable times and within reasonable limits and in a reasonable manner, the place of employment and all pertinent conditions, structures, machines, apparatus, devices, equipment and materials therein. The department's representative is not authorized to question privately the employer or employees until the [board] secretary has adopted regulations protecting the rights of [such] the employer and

employees.

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Any employee or representative of employees may В. file a written complaint with the department concerning any alleged violation of a regulation or any hazardous condition. copy of the complaint shall be provided to the employer at the time of the inspection. However, upon the request of the complainant, the complainant's <u>name</u> shall not appear on the The department shall investigate the complaint and notify copy. the complainant and employer in writing of the results of the investigation and any action to be taken. If no action is contemplated, the department shall notify the complainant and include in the notice the reasons therefor. The department shall provide for the informal review of decisions not to take compliance action at the request of the complainant. The review shall not be by those who investigated the complaint.

- C. In order to aid inspections, a representative of the employer and a representative authorized by employees shall be given an opportunity to accompany the department inspector during the physical inspection of the [work place] workplace.

 If there is no authorized employee representative, the department inspector shall consult with a reasonable number of employees.
- D. Prior to or during any inspection of a [work place] workplace, any employees or representative of employees employed in [such work place] the workplace may notify the

department or the department inspector in writing of any violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act [which] that they have reason to believe exists in [such work place] the workplace. The department shall establish procedures for informal review of the decision made by the inspector, and, if no citation is issued with respect to the alleged violation, it shall furnish the employee requesting [such] the review a written statement of the reasons for the department's final disposition of the case.

- E. If an inspection reveals that employees are exposed to toxic materials or harmful physical agents at levels in excess of those prescribed by regulations of the [board] secretary, the department shall provide the employees with access to the results of the inspection. The employer shall promptly notify the employees who are being exposed to the agents or materials in excess of the applicable regulations and inform them of the corrective action being taken or that review has been requested in accordance with Section 50-9-17 NMSA 1978.
- F. It is unlawful for any person to give advance notice of any inspection to be conducted under the Occupational Health and Safety Act without the written approval of the secretary or the secretary's authorized representative.
- G. The $[\frac{board}{}]$ secretary shall adopt regulations to implement this section."

Section 95. Section 50-9-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1972,

Chapter 63, Section 10, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-9-11. REPORTS AND [RECORD KEEPING] RECORDKEEPING BY EMPLOYERS. --

A. An employer shall keep such records and make such reports to the department as the [board] secretary, by regulation, may require to carry out the purposes of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. [Such] The regulation regarding records and reports shall be at least as effective as and consistent with the occupational safety and health record and report requirements of the United States department of labor. These records and reports shall be obtained with a minimum burden upon employers, especially those operating small businesses. Unnecessary duplication of efforts in obtaining information shall be reduced to the maximum extent feasible.

B. Employers shall maintain accurate records of employee exposures to potentially toxic material or harmful physical agents [which] that are required to be monitored or measured as the [board] secretary may prescribe by regulations. Employees and their representatives shall be given an opportunity to observe [such] the monitoring and measuring. Employees and former employees shall be granted access to their own records as will indicate their own exposure to toxic material or harmful agents. Each employer shall promptly notify any employee who has been or is being exposed to toxic materials or harmful physical agents in concentrations or levels that

exceed those prescribed by an applicable regulation adopted pursuant to the Occupational Health and Safety Act and shall inform any employee who is being thus exposed of the corrective action being taken. Employers shall retain the records of exposure of employees to specific toxic material and harmful agents for periods of time to be specified in regulations."

Section 96. Section 50-9-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1972, Chapter 63, Section 11, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-9-12. ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS--NOTICE AND HEARING.--

- A. Any person may recommend or propose regulations to the [board] secretary for [promulgation] adoption. The [board] secretary shall determine whether to hold a hearing within sixty days of submission of a proposed regulation.
- B. No regulations shall be adopted, amended or repealed until after a public hearing by the [board] secretary or a hearing officer designated by him. Notice of the hearing shall be given at least thirty days prior to the hearing date and shall state the subject, time and place of the hearing and the manner in which interested persons may secure copies of any regulations proposed to be adopted, amended or repealed. The notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the state. Reasonable effort shall be made to give notice to all persons who have made a written request to the [board] secretary for advance notice of hearings. At the hearing, the [board] secretary shall allow all interested persons reasonable

opportunity to submit data, views or arguments orally or in writing. Any person heard or represented at the hearing shall be given written notice of the action by the [board] secretary. The [board] secretary may designate a hearing officer to take evidence in the hearing and present the evidence to [the board] him. A record shall be made of each hearing.

- C. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection B of this section, the secretary may adopt an emergency regulation to take immediate effect upon its filing under the State Rules Act if the secretary determines:
- (1) that employees are exposed to grave danger from exposure to substances or agents determined to be toxic or physically harmful or from new hazards; and
- (2) that the emergency regulation is necessary to protect employees from the danger.
- D. The emergency regulation shall be effective until superseded by a final regulation promulgated in accordance with the procedures prescribed in Subsection B of this section. The final regulation shall be promulgated within one hundred twenty days of the date of promulgation of the relevant emergency regulation.
- E. If the emergency regulation is promulgated in response to an emergency temporary standard issued pursuant to the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, [then such] the emergency regulation shall only be enforceable to the

same extent as the federal emergency temporary standard.

F. If the federal emergency temporary standard is superseded by a federal permanent standard, [then] the state emergency regulation shall remain in effect for an additional one hundred twenty days after promulgation of the superseding standard. During this additional one hundred twenty days, the [board] secretary shall promulgate a regulation in accordance with the procedures prescribed in Subsection B of this section."

Section 97. Section 50-9-13 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1972, Chapter 63, Section 12, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-9-13. ADOPTING STANDARDS BY REFERENCE.--In the event the [board] secretary wishes to adopt regulations that are identical with standards approved by an agency of the federal government, [the board] he may, after notice and hearing, [may] adopt the regulations by reference to the standards without setting forth the provisions of the standards."

Section 98. Section 50-9-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1972, Chapter 63, Section 14, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-9-15. VALIDITY OF REGULATION--VARIANCE
DETERMINATION--JUDICIAL REVIEW --

A. Any person who is or may be affected by a regulation adopted by the [board] secretary may appeal to the court of appeals for further relief. All appeals shall be upon the record made at the hearing and shall be [taken to] filed in the court of appeals within thirty days after filing of the

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regulation under the State Rules Act. The [board] secretary shall be [made] a party to the action.

- A variance petitioner may appeal to the court of appeals from an order of the department denying the variance. All appeals shall be upon the record made at the hearing and shall be taken to the court of appeals within thirty days from the date the order is made. The department shall be [made] a party to the action.
- Upon appeal, the court of appeals shall set aside a regulation or order only if found to be:
- (1) arbitrary, capricious or an abuse of discretion:
- **(2)** not supported by substantial evidence in the record; or
- **(3)** otherwise not in accordance with law." Section 99. Section 50-9-22 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1972, Chapter 63, Section 21, as amended) is amended to read:

"50-9-22. PREEMPTION. - -

- Nothing in the Occupational Health and Safety Act shall affect the jurisdiction of any state agency or any political subdivision performing like functions or exercising like responsibilities with regard to occupational health and safety matters except as provided in Subsection B or C of this section.
 - В. Whenever the [board] secretary prescribes or

adopts a regulation under the procedures provided in the Occupational Health and Safety Act, the regulation shall, when a copy thereof is filed with the clerk of the political subdivision to which it applies, establish a minimum requirement concerning the matters covered by the regulation and shall be construed in connection with any local requirement relative to the same matter. The regulation of the [board] secretary amends or modifies any requirement of the local standard [which] that does not meet the regulation.

- C. The Occupational Health and Safety Act and regulations promulgated under it, and not the acts and regulations enforced by the state mine inspector, shall apply to places of employment subject to the jurisdiction of the United States department of labor acting under the provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 [(84 Stat. 1590)], as amended.
- D. Compliance with a regulation of the [board] secretary does not relieve any person from the obligation to comply with a stricter state agency or political subdivision health or safety requirement, but the state agency or political subdivision shall be responsible for the enforcement of the health and safety requirements established by that state agency or local authority."

Section 100. Section 51-1-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1979, Chapter 280, Section 11, as amended) is amended to read:

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"51-1-2	2. DEFINITIONS.	As	used	i n	the	Unempl oyment
Compensation	Law:					

- A. "department" means the [labor] workforce development department;
- B. "division" means the employment security division of the [labor] department; and
- C. "secretary" means the secretary of [labor] workforce development."

Section 101. Section 51-1-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969, Chapter 213, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"51-1-4. MONETARY COMPUTATION OF BENEFITS--PAYMENT GENERALLY.--

A. All benefits provided herein are payable from the unemployment compensation fund. All benefits shall be paid in accordance with such regulations as the secretary may prescribe through employment offices or other agencies as the secretary may by general rule approve.

B. Weekly benefits shall be as follows:

(1) an individual's "weekly benefit amount" is an amount equal to one twenty-sixth of the total wages for insured work paid to him in that quarter of his base period in which total wages were highest. No benefit as so computed may be less than ten percent or more than fifty percent of the state's average weekly wage for all insured work. The state's average weekly wage shall be computed from all wages reported to

the [department] division from employing units in accordance with regulations of the secretary for the period ending June 30 of each calendar year divided by the total number of covered employees divided by fifty-two, effective for the benefit years commencing on or after the first Sunday of the following calendar year. Any such individual is not eligible to receive benefits unless his total base-period wages equal at least one and one-fourth times the wages for insured work in that quarter of his base period in which such wages are highest;

(2) each eligible individual who is unemployed in any week during which he is in a continued claims status shall be paid, with respect to such week, a benefit in an amount equal to his weekly benefit amount, less that part of the wages, if any, or earnings from self-employment, payable to him with respect to such week [which] that is in excess of one-fifth of his weekly benefit amount. For purposes of this subsection only, "wages" includes all remuneration for services actually performed in any week for which benefits are claimed, vacation pay for any period for which the individual has a definite return-to-work date, wages in lieu of notice and back pay for loss of employment but does not include payments through a court for time spent in jury service;

(3) notwithstanding any other provision of this section, each eligible individual who, pursuant to a plan financed in whole or in part by a base-period employer of such

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individual, is receiving a governmental or other pension, retirement pay, annuity or any other similar periodic payment that is based on the previous work of such individual and who is unemployed with respect to any week ending subsequent to April 9, 1981 shall be paid with respect to such week, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the secretary, compensation equal to his weekly benefit amount reduced, but not below zero, by the prorated amount of such pension, retirement pay, annuity or other similar periodic payment that exceeds the percentage contributed to the plan by the eligible individual. The maximum benefit amount payable to such eligible individual shall be an amount not more than twenty-six times his reduced weekly benefit If payments referred to in this section are being received by any individual under the federal Social Security Act, the division shall take into account the individual's contribution and make no reduction in the weekly benefit amount;

- (4) in the case of a lump-sum payment of a pension, retirement or retired pay, annuity or other similar payment by a base-period employer that is based on the previous work of such individual, such payment shall be allocated, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the secretary, and shall reduce the amount of unemployment compensation paid, but not below zero, in accordance with Paragraph (3) of this subsection; and
 - (5) the retroactive payment of a pension,

retirement or retired pay, annuity or any other similar periodic payment as provided in Paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection attributable to weeks during which an individual has claimed or has been paid unemployment compensation shall be allocated to such weeks and shall reduce the amount of unemployment compensation for such weeks, but not below zero, by an amount equal to the prorated amount of such pension. Any overpayment of unemployment compensation benefits resulting from the application of the provisions of this paragraph shall be recovered from the claimant in accordance with the provisions of Section 51-1-38 NMSA 1978.

- C. Any otherwise eligible individual is entitled during any benefit year to a total amount of benefits equal to whichever is the lesser of twenty-six times his weekly benefit amount or sixty percent of his wages for insured work paid during his base period.
- D. Any benefit as determined in Subsection B or C of this section, if not a multiple of one dollar (\$1.00), shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of one dollar (\$1.00).
- E. The secretary may prescribe regulations to provide for the payment of benefits that are due and payable to the legal representative, dependents, relatives or next of kin of claimants since deceased. These regulations need not conform with the laws governing successions, and the payment shall be deemed a valid payment to the same extent as if made under a

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formal administration of the succession of the claimant.

F. The division, on its own initiative, may reconsider a monetary determination whenever it is determined that an error in computation or identity has occurred or that wages of the claimant pertinent to such determination but not considered have been newly discovered or that the benefits have been allowed or denied on the basis of misrepresentation of fact, but no redetermination shall be made after one year from the date of the original monetary determination. Notice of a redetermination shall be given to all interested parties and shall be subject to an appeal in the same manner as the original In the event that an appeal involving an original monetary determination is pending at the time a redetermination is issued, the appeal, unless withdrawn, shall be treated as an appeal from such redetermination."

Section 102. Section 51-1-34 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1936 (S.S.), Chapter 1, Section 13, as amended) is amended to read:

"51-1-34. ADMINISTRATION FUNDS. --

A. There is created a special fund to be held in the custody of the state treasurer and known as the "unemployment compensation administration fund".

(1) All money paid into the fund is available to the secretary. All money in the fund shall be expended solely for the purposes and in the amount found necessary by the secretary of labor of the United States [of America] for the

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administration of the Unemployment Compensation Law. Except as provided in Subsection B of this section, the fund shall consist of money appropriated by the state, and all money received from the federal government or any of its agencies, including the department of labor of the United States [of America], the railroad retirement board or from any other source for such purpose. Money received from the railroad retirement board as compensation for services or facilities supplied to the board shall be paid into the fund. All money in the fund shall be deposited, administered and disbursed in accordance with the Unemployment Compensation Law and regulations, except that money in the fund shall not be commingled with other state funds but shall be maintained in a separate account on the books of the Any balance in the fund shall not lapse at any time deposi tory. but shall be continuously available for expenditure consistent with the Unemployment Compensation Law. Such money is subject to the general laws applicable to the deposit of public money in New Mexico, and collateral pledged shall be maintained in a separate custody account.

(2) If Section 303(a)(5) of Title 3 of the Social Security Act and Section 3304(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code are amended to permit a state agency to use, in financing administrative expenditures incurred in carrying out its employment security functions, some part of the money collected, or to be collected, under the Unemployment

Compensation Law, in partial or complete substitution for grants under Title 3, then the Unemployment Compensation Law shall be modified by proclamation and by general rules in the manner and to the extent and within the limits necessary to permit such use under the Unemployment Compensation Law, and the modification is effective on the same date as the use is permissible under federal amendments.

- B. There is created a special fund to be held in the custody of the state treasurer and known as the "employment security [department] division fund".
- (1) The fund is separate from the unemployment compensation administration fund.
- (2) All money paid into the employment security [department] division fund may be expended only pursuant to an appropriation by the legislature or specific provision of law. The [department] division shall submit its annual budget for expenditures from the fund in accordance with the rules and regulations established by the department of finance and administration governing the submission of budgets by state agencies. All balances in the fund at the end of the fiscal year [which] that have not been appropriated for expenditure shall remain in the fund and be invested by the state treasurer until appropriated by the legislature. The money in the fund, except for refunds of interest and penalties erroneously collected, and except for fiscal-year balances, shall be

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expended solely for the purposes and in the amount found necessary for the payment of the costs of administration not chargeable against federal grants or other funds received for the unemployment compensation administration fund. Nothing in this section shall prevent the unencumbered money of the fund from being used as a revolving fund to cover necessary and proper expenditures for which federal funds have been duly requested but not yet received, subject to the charging of such expenditures against such funds when received. Money shall not be expended or made available for expenditure in any manner [which] that would permit its substitution for, or cause a corresponding reduction in, federal funds [which] that would be available, in the absence of such money, to finance expenditures for the administration of the Unemployment Compensation Law. The fund shall consist of all interest collected on delinquent contributions and all penalties provided by the Unemployment Compensation Law and all other money received for the fund from any other source. All money in the fund shall be deposited, administered and disbursed in accordance with this section, except that money in the fund shall not be commingled with other state funds but shall be maintained in a separate account on the books of the depository and is subject to the general laws applicable to the deposit of public money in New Mexico, and collateral pledged shall be maintained in a separate custody account.

C. The state treasurer is liable on his official bond for the faithful performance of his duties in connection with the funds created by Subsections A and B of this section, in addition to the liability upon all other bonds."

Section 103. Section 51-1-36 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1936 (S.S.), Chapter 1, Section 14, as amended) is amended to read:

"51-1-36. COLLECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS.--

A. Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable shall bear interest at the rate of one percent per month from and after such date until payment is received by the division. Interest collected pursuant to this subsection shall be paid into the employment security [department] division fund.

B. If, after due notice, any employer defaults in any payment of contributions or interest thereon, the amount due shall be collected by civil action in the name of the division, and the employer adjudged in default shall pay the costs of such action. Civil actions brought under this section to collect contributions or interest thereon from an employer shall be heard by the court at the earliest possible date and shall be entitled to preference on the calendar of the court over all other civil actions except petitions for judicial review under this act and worker's compensation cases arising under Sections 52-1-1 through 52-2-13 NMSA 1978 or in the discretion of the secretary. If any contribution or any portion thereof or any

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interest or penalty imposed by the Unemployment Compensation Law is not paid within thirty days after the same becomes due, the secretary shall, after due notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with regulations, issue a warrant under its official seal, directed to the sheriff of any county of the state commanding him to levy upon and sell the real and personal property of the person owning the same, found within his county, of the payment of the amount due and an added amount of ten percent of the contribution in addition to any other penalties imposed and costs of executing the warrant, and to return such warrant to the secretary and pay to him the money collected by virtue thereof, by the time to be therein specified, not more than thirty days from the date of the warrant. In the event the division does not know the amount of contribution due, and the employer from whom the same is due refuses or fails to make reports showing what he or it claims for the amount of contributions [which] that it believes to be due, and the division files the warrant for the estimated amount, mailing notice to the employer stating that it is estimating the amount of contribution due and giving the estimated amount in the notice, the warrant and estimated amount shown therein shall have the same effect as any other warrant issued under this If the employer does not make a showing to the subsection. satisfaction of the secretary that the estimated amount is incorrect within thirty days after the warrant is filed with the

1 county clerk, then the estimated amount shown in the warrant shall be and become the amount of the contribution due for the 2 period stated in the warrant. The sheriff to whom any warrant, issued under this section, is directed shall, within five days after receipt of the same, file with the county clerk of his 5 county a copy thereof, for which the clerk shall make no charge, and thereupon the county clerk shall record the same upon his 7 records and the day when such copy is filed. Thereupon the 9 amount of the warrant so filed and entered shall become a lien 10 upon all property, real and personal, of the person against whom 11 it is issued, including choses in action, except negotiable 12 instruments not past due; provided, however, that such lien 13 shall be inferior to all other valid liens, encumbrances, 14 mortgages, judgments and assessments [which] that are filed or 15 placed of record prior to the filing of such warrant. The 16 sheriff or a representative of the division thereupon shall levy 17 upon any property of the taxpayer, including negotiable 18 instruments, and the property so levied on shall be sold in all 19 respects with the like effect, and in the same manner as is 20 prescribed by law with respect to executions against property upon judgments of a court of record, and the remedies of 21 22 garnishment shall apply. Whenever any property or right to 23 property upon which levy has been made is not sufficient to satisfy the claim for which levy is made, the sheriff or a 24 25 representative of the division may thereafter, and as often as

may be necessary, proceed to levy in like manner upon any other property or rights to property subject to levy of the person against whom the claim exists, until the amount due from him is fully paid. The sheriff shall be entitled to the general fees for his services in executing the warrant as now allowed by law for like services, to be collected in the same manner as now provided by law for like services. All costs of executing warrants including mileage of the sheriff serving and executing the same and all other costs in connection with the levy, including advertising or publication costs upon the sale of any property levied upon, shall be collected by the [department] division from the employer from whom contribution is due.

C. In the event of any distribution of an employer's assets pursuant to an order of any court under the laws of this state, including any receivership, assignment for benefit of creditors, adjudicated insolvency, composition or similar proceeding, contributions then or thereafter due shall be paid in full prior to all other claims except taxes and claims for remuneration of not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) to each claimant, earned within six months of the commencement of the proceeding. In the event of an employer's adjudication in bankruptcy, judicially confirmed extension proposal, or composition, under the federal Bankruptcy Code [11 U.S.C. Sec. 101 et seq.], contributions then or thereafter due shall be entitled to such priority as is provided in the [Federal

Bankruptcy Code U.S.C. Title] 11 USCA Sec. 507.

D. If not later than four years after the date on which any contributions or interest thereon are paid an employing unit that has paid such contributions or interest thereon [shall make] makes application for an adjustment thereof in connection with subsequent contribution payments, or for a refund thereof because such adjustment cannot be made, and the secretary [shall determine] determines that such contributions or interest or any portion thereof was erroneously collected, the secretary shall allow such employing unit to make an adjustment thereof, without interest, in connection with subsequent contribution payments by him, or if such adjustment cannot be made, the secretary shall refund the amount, without interest, from the fund to which the amount was deposited. For like cause and within the same period, adjustment or refund may be so made on the secretary's own initiative.

E. Any person, group of individuals, partnership or employing unit, that acquires the organization, trade or business or substantially all the assets thereof from an employer shall notify the division in writing by registered mail not later than five days prior to the acquisition. Unless such notice is given, such acquisition shall be void as against the division, if, at the time of the acquisition, any contributions are due and unpaid by the previous employer, and the secretary shall have the right to proceed against such employer either in

personam or in rem and the assets so acquired shall be subject to attachment for such debt."

Section 104. Section 51-1-37.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1982, Chapter 41, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"51-1-37.1. CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATIONS.--

A. An individual filing a claim to establish a benefit year for unemployment compensation shall, at the time of filing the claim, disclose whether or not the individual owes child support obligations. If the individual is eligible for unemployment compensation benefits and owes child support obligations, the employment security [department] division shall notify the [human services department] child support enforcement division of the workforce development department of the name of the applicant and the amount of benefits for which the claimant is eligible.

- B. The employment security [department] division of the workforce development department shall deduct and withhold from any unemployment compensation otherwise payable to an individual who owes child support obligations:
- (1) the amount specified by the individual to be deducted and withheld, if an amount is not specified under Paragraph (2) or (3) of this subsection;
- (2) the amount specified in an agreement between the individual and the child support enforcement [bureau] division of the [human services] workforce development

department, pursuant to Section 454(20)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act, a copy of which has been provided to the employment security [department] division by the child support enforcement [bureau] division; or

- (3) any amount otherwise required to be so deducted and withheld from such unemployment compensation pursuant to a writ of garnishment or other legal process for enforcement of judgments issued by any court of competent jurisdiction in any state, territory or possession of the United States or any foreign country with which the United States has an agreement to honor such process directed to the department for the purpose of enforcing an individual's obligation to provide child support.
- C. Any amount withheld from the benefits due a claimant shall be considered as payment of unemployment compensation benefits to the claimant and paid by the individual in satisfaction of his child support obligations.
- D. The amount of child support obligations withheld by the employment security [department] division pursuant to this section shall be paid to the [human services department] child support enforcement division of the workforce development department.
- E. "Unemployment compensation benefits" means compensation payable under the Unemployment Compensation Law and any compensation payable by or through the employment security

[department] division pursuant to an agreement under any federal law providing for compensation, assistance or allowance with respect to unemployment.

- F. "Child support obligations" includes only obligations [which] that are being enforced pursuant to a plan described in Section 454 of the Social Security Act [which] that has been approved by the United States secretary of health and human services under Part D of Title IV of the Social Security Act.
- G. The [human services department] child support enforcement division of the workforce development department shall reimburse the employment security [department] division for the administrative costs incurred by the employment security [department which] division that are attributable to the child support obligations being enforced by the [human services department] child support enforcement division. If the [human services department] child support enforcement division and the employment security [department] division fail to agree on the amount of such administrative costs, the state budget division of the department of finance and administration shall prescribe the amount of administrative costs to be reimbursed."

Section 105. Section 51-1-42 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1936 (S.S), Chapter 1, Section 19, as amended) is amended to read:

"51-1-42. DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the Unemployment Compensation Law:

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- A. "base period" means the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the first day of an individual's benefit year;
- B. "benefits" means the cash unemployment compensation payments payable to an eligible individual pursuant to Section 51-1-4 NMSA 1978 with respect to his weeks of unemployment;
- C. "contributions" means the money payments required by Section 51-1-9 NMSA 1978 to be made into the [unemployment compensation] fund by an employer on account of having individuals performing services for him;
- D. "employing unit" means any individual or type of organization, including any partnership, association, cooperative, trust, estate, joint-stock company, agricultural enterprise, insurance company or corporation, whether domestic or foreign, or the receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, trustee or successor thereof, household, fraternity or club, the legal representative of a deceased person or any state or local government entity to the extent required by law to be covered as an employer, which has in its employ one or more individuals performing services for it within this state. All individuals performing services for any employing unit [which] that maintains two or more separate establishments within this state shall be deemed to be employed by a single employing unit for all the purposes of the Unemployment Compensation Law.

Individuals performing services for contractors, subcontractors or agents [which] that are performing work or services for an employing unit, as described in this subsection, which is within the scope of the employing unit's usual trade, occupation, profession or business, shall be deemed to be in the employ of the employing unit for all purposes of the Unemployment Compensation Law unless such contractor, subcontractor or agent is itself an employer within the provision of Subsection E of this section;

E. "employer" includes:

- (1) any employing unit [which] that:
- (a) unless otherwise provided in this section, paid for service in employment as defined in Subsection F of this section wages of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450) or more in any calendar quarter in either the current or preceding calendar year or had in employment, as defined in Subsection F of this section, for some portion of a day in each of twenty different calendar weeks during either the current or the preceding calendar year, and irrespective of whether the same individual was in employment in each such day, at least one individual;
- (b) for the purposes of Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, if any week includes both December 31 and January 1, the days of that week up to January 1 shall be deemed one calendar week and the days beginning January 1, another such

week; and

(c) for purposes of defining an "employer" under Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, the wages or remuneration paid to individuals performing services in employment in agricultural labor or domestic services as provided in Paragraphs (6) and (7) of Subsection F of this section shall not be taken into account; except that any employing unit determined to be an employer of agricultural labor under Paragraph (6) of Subsection F of this section shall be an employer under Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph so long as the employing unit is paying wages or remuneration for services other than agricultural services;

- (2) any individual or type of organization that acquired the trade or business or substantially all of the assets thereof, of an employing unit [which] that at the time of such acquisition was an employer subject to the Unemployment Compensation Law; provided that where such an acquisition takes place, the secretary may postpone activating the separate account pursuant to Subsection A of Section 51-1-11 NMSA 1978 until such time as the successor employer has employment as defined in Subsection F of this section;
- (3) any employing unit [which] that acquired all or part of the organization, trade, business or assets of another employing unit and [which] that, if treated as a single unit with such other employing unit or part thereof, would be an

employer under Paragraph (1) of this subsection;

- (4) any employing unit not an employer by reason of any other paragraph of this subsection:
- (a) for which, within either the current or preceding calendar year, service is or was performed with respect to which such employing unit is liable for any federal tax against which credit may be taken for contributions required to be paid into a state unemployment fund; or
- (b) which, as a condition for approval of the Unemployment Compensation Law for full tax credit against the tax imposed by the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, is required, pursuant to such act, to be an "employer" under the Unemployment Compensation Law;
- (5) any employing unit [which] that, having become an employer under Paragraph (1), (2), (3) or (4) of this subsection, has not, under Section 51-1-18 NMSA 1978, ceased to be an employer subject to the Unemployment Compensation Law;
- (6) for the effective period of its election pursuant to Section 51-1-18 NMSA 1978, any other employing unit [which] that has elected to become fully subject to the Unemployment Compensation Law; and
- (7) any employing unit for which any services performed in its employ are deemed to be performed in this state pursuant to an election under an arrangement entered into in accordance with Subsection A of Section 51-1-50 NMSA 1978;

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F. "employment" means:

- (1) any service, including service in interstate commerce, performed for wages or under any contract of hire, written or oral, express or implied;
- (2) and includes an individual's entire service, performed within or both within and without this state if:
- (a) the service is primarily localized in this state with services performed outside the state being only incidental thereto; or
- (b) the service is not localized in any state, but some of the service is performed in this state and:

 1) the base of operations or, if there is no base of operations,

 [then] the place from which such service is directed or controlled, is in this state; or 2) the base of operations or place from which such service is directed or controlled is not in any state in which some part of the service is performed, but the individual's residence is in this state;
- (3) services performed within this state but not covered under Paragraph (2) of this subsection if contributions or payments in lieu of contributions are not required and paid with respect to such services under an unemployment compensation law of any other state, the federal government or Canada;
 - (4) services covered by an election pursuant to

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Section 51-1-18 NMSA 1978 and services covered by an election duly approved by the secretary in accordance with an arrangement pursuant to [Paragraph (1) of] Subsection A of Section 51-1-50 NMSA 1978 shall be deemed to be employment during the effective period of such election;

- services performed by an individual for an employer for wages or other remuneration unless and until it is established by a preponderance of evidence that:
- such individual has been and will continue to be free from control or direction over the performance of such services both under his contract of service and in fact:
- such service is either outside the (b) usual course of business for which such service is performed or that such service is performed outside of all the places of business of the enterprise for which such service is performed; and
- (c) such individual is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, profession or business of the same nature as that involved in the contract of service:
- (6) service performed after December 31, 1977 by an individual in agricultural labor as defined in Subsection Q of this section if:
 - such service is performed for an (a)

employing unit [which] that: 1) paid remuneration in cash of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) or more to individuals in such employment during any calendar quarter in either the current or the preceding calendar year; or 2) employed in agricultural labor ten or more individuals for some portion of a day in each of twenty different calendar weeks in either the current or preceding calendar year, whether or not such weeks were consecutive, and regardless of whether such individuals were employed at the same time;

(b) such service is not performed before

January 1, 1980 by an individual who is an alien admitted to the

United States to perform service in agricultural labor pursuant
to Sections 214(c) and 101(15)(H) of the Immigration and

Nationality Act; and

(c) for purposes of this paragraph, any individual who is a member of a crew furnished by a crew leader to perform service in agricultural labor for a farm operator or other person shall be treated as an employee of such crew leader: 1) if such crew leader meets the requirements of a crew leader as defined in Subsection L of this section; or 2) substantially all the members of such crew operate or maintain mechanized agricultural equipment [which] that is provided by the crew leader; and 3) the individuals performing such services are not, by written agreement or in fact, within the meaning of Paragraph (5) of this subsection, performing services in

employment for the farm operator or other person;

- (7) service performed after December 31, 1977 by an individual in domestic service in a private home, local college club or local chapter of a college fraternity or sorority for a person or organization that paid cash remuneration of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in any calendar quarter in the current or preceding calendar year to individuals performing such services;
- (8) service performed after December 31, 1971 by an individual in the employ of a religious, charitable, educational or other organization but only if the following conditions are met:
- (a) the service is excluded from "employment" as defined in the Federal Unemployment Tax Act solely by reason of Section 3306(c)(8) of that act; and
- (b) the organization meets the requirements of "employer" as provided in Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (1) of Subsection E of this section;
- (9) service of an individual who is a citizen of the United States, performed outside the United States, except in Canada, after December 31, 1971 in the employ of an American employer (other than service which is deemed "employment" under the provisions of Paragraph (2) of this subsection or the parallel provisions of another state's law), if:

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the employer has no place of business (b) in the United States, but: 1) the employer is an individual who is a resident of this state; 2) the employer is a corporation [which] that is organized under the laws of this state; or 3) the employer is a partnership or a trust and the number of the partners or trustees who are residents of this state is greater than the number who are residents of any one other state; or

none of the criteria of Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this paragraph are met, but the employer has elected coverage in this state or, the employer having failed to elect coverage in any state, the individual has filed a claim for benefits, based on such service, under the law of this state.

"American employer" for purposes of this paragraph [(9) of this subsection] means a person who is: 1) an individual who is a resident of the United States; 2) a partnership if two-thirds or more of the partners are residents of the United States; 3) a trust if all of the trustees are residents of the United States: or 4) a corporation organized under the laws of the United States or of any state. For the purposes of this paragraph [(9) of this subsection], "United States" includes the United States, the District of Columbia, the commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands;

(10) notwithstanding any other provisions of this subsection, service with respect to which a tax is required to be paid under any federal law imposing a tax against which credit may be taken for contributions required to be paid into a state unemployment fund or which as a condition for full tax credit against the tax imposed by the Federal Unemployment Tax Act is required to be covered under the Unemployment Compensation Law;

- (11) "employment" shall not include:
- (a) service performed in the employ of:

 1) a church or convention or association of churches; or 2) an organization [which] that is operated primarily for religious purposes and [which] that is operated, supervised, controlled or principally supported by a church or convention or association of churches:
- (b) service performed by a duly ordained, commissioned or licensed minister of a church in the exercise of his ministry or by a member of a religious order in the exercise of duties required by such order;
- (c) service performed by an individual in the employ of his son, daughter or spouse, and service performed by a child under the age of majority in the employ of his father or mother;
- (d) service performed in the employ of the United States government or an instrumentality of the United

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States immune under the constitution of the United States from the contributions imposed by the Unemployment Compensation Law except that to the extent that the congress of the United States shall permit states to require any instrumentalities of the United States to make payments into an unemployment fund under a state unemployment compensation act, all of the provisions of the Unemployment Compensation Law shall be applicable to such instrumentalities, and to service performed for such instrumentalities in the same manner, to the same extent and on the same terms as to all other employers, employing units, individuals and services; provided, that if this state shall not be certified for any year by the secretary of labor of the United States under Section 3304 of the federal Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. Section 3304), the payments required of such instrumentalities with respect to such year shall be refunded by the department from the fund in the same manner and within the same period as is provided in Subsection D of Section 51-1-36 NMSA 1978 with respect to contributions erroneously collected;

(e) service performed in a facility conducted for the purpose of carrying out a program of rehabilitation for individuals whose earning capacity is impaired by age or physical or mental deficiency or injury or providing remunerative work for individuals who because of their impaired physical or mental capacity cannot be readily absorbed in the competitive labor market, by an individual receiving such

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rehabilitation or remunerative work;

(f) service with respect to which unemployment compensation is payable under an unemployment compensation system established by an act of congress;

(g) service performed in the employ of a foreign government, including service as a consular or other officer or employee or a nondiplomatic representative;

(h) service performed by an individual for a person as an insurance agent or as an insurance solicitor, if all such service performed by such individual for such person is performed for remuneration solely by way of commission;

(i) service performed by an individual under the age of eighteen in the delivery or distribution of newspapers or shopping news, not including delivery or distribution to any point for subsequent delivery or distribution:

(j) service covered by an election duly approved by the agency charged with the administration of any other state or federal unemployment compensation law, in accordance with an arrangement pursuant to [Paragraph (1) of] Subsection A of Section 51-1-50 NMSA 1978 during the effective period of such election;

(k) service performed, as part of an unemployment work-relief or work-training program assisted or financed in whole or part by any federal agency or an agency of

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a state or political subdivision thereof, by an individual receiving such work relief or work training;

service performed by an individual (1) who is enrolled at a nonprofit or public educational institution [which] that normally maintains a regular faculty and curriculum and normally has a regularly organized body of students in attendance at the place where its educational activities are carried on as a student in a full-time program, taken for credit at such institution, [which] that combines academic instruction with work experience, if the service is an integral part of such program, and the institution has so certified to the employer, except that this subparagraph shall not apply to service performed in a program established for or on behalf of an employer or group of employers;

service performed in the employ of a hospital, if the service is performed by a patient of the hospital, or services performed by an immate of a custodial or penal institution for a governmental entity or nonprofit organi zati on;

- service performed by real estate (n) salesmen for others when the services are performed for remuneration solely by way of commission;
- service performed in the employ of a school, college or university if such service is performed by a student who is enrolled and is regularly attending classes at

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such school, college or university;

(p) service performed by an individual for a fixed or contract fee officiating at a sporting event [which] that is conducted by or under the auspices of a nonprofit or governmental entity if that person is not otherwise an employee of the entity conducting the sporting event; or

service performed for a private for-(q) profit person or entity by an individual as a landman if substantially all remuneration paid in cash or otherwise for the performance of the services is directly related to the completion by the individual of the specific tasks contracted for rather than to the number of hours worked by the individual. For the purposes of this subparagraph, "landman" means a land professional who has been engaged primarily in: 1) negotiating for the acquisition or divestiture of mineral rights; 2) negotiating business agreements that provide for the exploration for or development of minerals; 3) determining ownership of minerals through the research of public and private records; and 4) reviewing the status of title, curing title defects and otherwise reducing title risk associated with ownership of minerals; managing rights or obligations derived from ownership of interests and minerals; or utilizing or pooling of interest in minerals; and

(12) for the purposes of this subsection, if the services performed during one-half or more of any pay period

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by an individual for the person employing him constitute employment, all the services of such individual for such period shall be deemed to be employment, but, if the services performed during more than one-half of any such pay period by an individual for the person employing him do not constitute employment, then none of the services of such individual for such period shall be deemed to be employment. As used in this paragraph, the term "pay period" means a period, of not more than thirty-one consecutive days, for which a payment of remuneration is ordinarily made to the individual by the person employing him. This paragraph shall not be applicable with respect to services performed in a pay period by an individual for the person employing him where any of such service is excepted by Subparagraph (f) of Paragraph (11) of this subsection:

- G. "employment office" means a free public employment office, or branch thereof, operated by this state or maintained as a part of a state-controlled system of public employment offices;
- H. "fund" means the unemployment compensation fund established by the Unemployment Compensation Law to which all contributions and payments in lieu of contributions required under the Unemployment Compensation Law and from which all benefits provided under the Unemployment Compensation Law shall be paid;

- I. "unemployment" means, with respect to an individual, any week during which he performs no services and with respect to which no wages are payable to him and during which he is not engaged in self-employment or receives an award of back pay for loss of employment. The secretary shall prescribe by regulation what constitutes part-time and intermittent employment, partial employment and the conditions under which individuals engaged in such employment are eligible for partial unemployment benefits;
- J. "state", when used in reference to any state other than New Mexico, includes, in addition to the states of the United States, the District of Columbia, the commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands;
- K. "unemployment compensation administration fund" means the fund established by Subsection A of Section 51-1-34 NMSA 1978 from which administrative expenses under the Unemployment Compensation Law shall be paid. "Employment security [department] division fund" means the fund established by Subsection B of Section 51-1-34 NMSA 1978 from which certain administrative expenses under the Unemployment Compensation Law shall be paid;
 - L. "crew leader" means a person who:
- (1) holds a valid certificate of registration as a crew leader or farm labor contractor under the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act;

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- (2) furnishes individuals to perform services in agricultural labor for any other person;
- (3) pays, either on his own behalf or on behalf of such other person, the individuals so furnished by him for service in agricultural labor; and
- (4) has not entered into a written agreement with the other person for whom he furnishes individuals in agricultural labor that such individuals will be the employees of the other person;
- M "week" means such period of seven consecutive days, as the secretary may by regulation prescribe. The secretary may by regulation prescribe that a week shall be deemed to be "in", "within" or "during" that benefit year [which] that includes the greater part of such week;
- N. "calendar quarter" means the period of three consecutive calendar months ending on March 31, June 30, September 30 or December 31;
- 0. "insured work" means services performed for employers who are covered under the Unemployment Compensation Law:
- P. "benefit year" with respect to any individual means the one-year period beginning with the first day of the first week of unemployment with respect to which the individual first files a claim for benefits in accordance with Subsection A of Section 51-1-8 NMSA 1978 and thereafter the one-year period

beginning with the first day of the first week of unemployment with respect to which the individual next files such a claim for benefits after the termination of his last preceding benefit year; provided that at the time of filing such a claim the individual has been paid the wages for insured work required under Paragraph (5) of Subsection A of Section 51-1-5 NMSA 1978;

- Q. "agricultural labor" includes all services performed:
- (1) on a farm, in the employ of any person, in connection with cultivating the soil or in connection with raising or harvesting any agricultural or horticultural commodity, including the raising, shearing, feeding, caring for, training and management of livestock, bees, poultry and furbearing animals and wildlife;
- (2) in the employ of the owner or tenant or other operator of a farm, in connection with the operation, management, conservation or maintenance of such farm and its tools and equipment, if the major part of such service is performed on a farm;
- (3) in connection with the operation or maintenance of ditches, canals, reservoirs or waterways used exclusively for supplying and storing water for farming purposes when such ditches, canals, reservoirs or waterways are owned and operated by the farmers using the water stored or carried therein; and

(4) in handling, planting, drying, packing, packaging, processing, freezing, grading, storing or delivery to storage or to market or to a carrier for transportation to market any agricultural or horticultural commodity but only if such service is performed as an incident to ordinary farming operations. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be deemed to be applicable with respect to service performed in connection with commercial canning or commercial freezing or in connection with any agricultural or horticultural commodity after its delivery to a terminal market for distribution for consumption.

As used in this subsection, the term "farm" includes

As used in this subsection, the term "farm" includes stock, dairy, poultry, fruit, fur-bearing animal and truck farms, plantations, ranches, nurseries, greenhouses, ranges and orchards:

- R. "payments in lieu of contributions" means the money payments made into the fund by an employer pursuant to the provisions of Subsection A of Section 51-1-13 NMSA 1978;
- S. "department" means the [labor] <u>workforce</u> development department; and
- T. "wages" means all remuneration for services, including commissions and bonuses and the cash value of all remuneration in any medium other than cash. The reasonable cash value of remuneration in any medium other than cash shall be established and determined in accordance with regulations

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prescribed by the secretary; provided that the term "wages" shall not include:

subsequent to December 31, 1977, that part of the remuneration in excess of the base wage as determined by the secretary for each calendar year. The base wage upon which contribution shall be paid during any calendar year shall be sixty-five percent of the state's average annual earnings computed by the department by dividing total wages reported to the department by contributing employers for the second preceding calendar year before the calendar year the computed base wage becomes effective by the average annual employment reported by contributing employers for the same period rounded to the next higher multiple of one hundred dollars (\$100); provided that the base wage so computed for any calendar year shall not be less than seven thousand dollars (\$7,000). paid by an employer to an individual in his employ during any calendar year in excess of the base wage in effect for that calendar year shall be reported to the department but shall be exempt from the payment of contributions unless such wages paid in excess of the base wage become subject to tax under a federal law imposing a tax against which credit may be taken for contributions required to be paid into a state unemployment fund;

(2) the amount of any payment with respect to services performed after June 30, 1941 to or on behalf of an

individual in its employ under a plan or system established by an employing unit [which] that makes provision for individuals in its employ generally or for a class or classes of such individuals, including any amount paid by an employing unit for insurance or annuities, or into a fund, to provide for any such payment, on account of:

(a) retirement if such payments are made by an employer to or on behalf of any employee under a simplified employee pension plan that provides for payments by an employer in addition to the salary or other remuneration normally payable to such employee or class of such employees and does not include any payments [which] that represent deferred compensation or other reduction of an employee's normal taxable wages or remuneration or any payments made to a third party on behalf of an employee as part of an agreement of deferred remuneration:

- (b) sickness or accident disability if such payments are received under a workers' compensation or occupational disease disablement law;
- (c) medical and hospitalization expenses in connection with sickness or accident disability; or
- (d) death; provided the individual in its employ has not the option to receive, instead of provision for such death benefit, any part of such payment, or, if such death benefit is insured, any part of the premiums or contributions to

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premiums paid by his employing unit and has not the right under the provisions of the plan or system or policy of insurance providing for such death benefit to assign such benefit, or to receive a cash consideration in lieu of such benefit either upon his withdrawal from the plan or system providing for such benefit or upon termination of such plan or system or policy of insurance or of his service with such employing unit;

- (3) remuneration for agricultural labor paid in any medium other than cash;
- (4) any payment made to, or on behalf of, an employee or an employee's beneficiary under a cafeteria plan within the meaning of Section 125 of the federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986:
- (5) any payment made, or benefit furnished to or for the benefit of an employee if at the time of such payment or such furnishing it is reasonable to believe that the employee will be able to exclude such payment or benefit from income under Section 129 of the federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or
- (6) any payment made by an employer to a survivor or the estate of a former employee after the calendar year in which such employee died. [The provisions of this section shall become effective July 1, 1993.]"

Section 106. TEMPORARY PROVISION--TRANSFER OF
APPROPRIATIONS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, RECORDS, PERSONNEL, MONEY

AND CONTRACTS. --

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On July 1, 1997, all appropriations, equipment, supplies, records, personnel and money of the labor department, the human services department, the youth conservation corps unit of the energy, minerals and natural resources department, the americorps unit of the children, youth and families department and the occupational health and safety bureau of the department of environment are transferred to the workforce development department. For the remainder of fiscal year 1998, the budgets of the labor department, the human services department, the youth conservation corps unit of the energy, minerals and natural resources department, the americorps unit of the children, youth and families department and the occupational health and safety bureau of the department of environment shall be the budgets of the workforce development department, subject to such transfers as may be required by the secretary of workforce development. All federal program grants and fund allocations or other payments made to the labor department, the human services department, the youth conservation corps unit of the energy, minerals and natural resources department, the americorps unit of the children, youth and families department and the occupational health and safety bureau of the department of environment shall be transferred to the workforce development department pursuant to the Workforce Development Department Act and shall not be commingled with other funds of the department

or be used for any purpose except for the administration of the program for which such funds were granted.

B. All existing contracts and agreements in effect as to the labor department, the human services department, the youth conservation corp unit of the energy, minerals and natural resources department, the americorps unit of the children, youth and families department and the occupational health and safety bureau of the department of environment shall be binding and effective upon the workforce development department.

Section 108. TEMPORARY PROVISION--TRANSFER OF

APPROPRIATIONS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, RECORDS, PERSONNEL, MONEY

AND CONTRACTS FOR THE STATE MEDICALD PROGRAM --

A. On July 1, 1998, all appropriations, equipment, supplies, records, personnel and money of the medical assistance division of the workforce development department are transferred to the department of health. For the remainder of fiscal year 1999, the budget of the medical assistance division shall be the budget of the department of health, subject to such transfers as may be required by the secretary of health. All federal program grants and fund allocations or other payments made to the medical assistance division of the workforce development department shall be transferred to the department of health and shall not be commingled with other funds of the department or be used for any purpose except for the administration of the program for which such funds were granted.

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B. All existing contracts and agreements in effect as to the medical assistance division of the workforce development department shall be binding and effective on the department of health.

Section 108. TEMPORARY PROVISION--EFFECT OF EXISTING RULES, REGULATIONS, ORDERS AND RULINGS.--

- A. The rules, regulations, orders and rulings of the medical assistance division of the human services department in effect on June 30, 1997 shall remain in effect after the effective date of this act, until repealed or amended.
- B. The rules, regulations, orders and rulings of the medical assistance division of the workforce development department in effect on June 30, 1998 shall remain in effect on or after July 1, 1998 until repealed or amended.

Section 109. REPEAL. -- Sections 9-8-1 through 9-8-14,
9-18-1 through 9-18-15 and 50-6-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977,
Chapter 252, Sections 1 through 4, 6 through 13 and 15, Laws
1987, Chapter 31, Section 4, Laws 1987, Chapter 342, Sections 1
through 14, Laws 1993, Chapter 16, Section 2, Laws 1993, Chapter
25, Section 2 and Laws 1963, Chapter 175, Section 3, as amended)
are repealed.

Section 110. SEVERABILITY.--If any part or application of this act is held invalid, the remainder of its application to other situations or persons shall not be affected.

Section 111. EFFECTIVE DATE. --

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A. The effective date of the provisions of Sections 1 through 25, 27 through 33, 35, 37, 39, 42, 44, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 54, 56, 57, 59, 61 through 107 and 109 through 112 of this act is July 1, 1997.

The effective date of the provisions of Sections В. 26, 34, 36, 38, 40, 41, 43, 45, 48, 51, 53, 55, 58, 60 and 108 of this act is July 1, 1998.

- 163 -

1	FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
2	FIRST SESSION, 1997 SB 429/a
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5	
6	February 8, 1997
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8	Mr. President:
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10	Your COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE , to whom has been referred
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12	SENATE BILL 429
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14	
15	has had it under consideration and reports same WITHOUT
16	RECOMMENDATION, amended as follows:
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18	1. On page 161, line 10, strike "108" and insert in lieu thereof
19	"107".,
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21	and thence referred to the PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE .
22	The change relation to the Republic line and the change of
23	
24	Respectfully submitted,

<u>Underscored material = new</u> [bracketed_material] = delete

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE SECOND SESSION, 1996

1		SECOND	SESSION, 1996
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3	%%%		Page 165
4			
5			Manny M Aragon, Chairnan
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7			
8	Adopted_		Not Adopted
9		(Chief Clerk)	(Chi ef Cl erk)
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12		Date	
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15	The roll	call vote was 24 For	4 Against
16	Yes:	24	
17	No:	Adair, Gorham, Griego	and Jennings
18	Excused:	Boitano, Howes, Kidd,	Lyons, Macias, Maes, McKibben, McSorley,
19		Rawson, Romero, Sanche	ez, Stockard, Tsosie, and Vernon
20	Absent:	None	
21			
22			
23			
24	S0429WS1		. 116042. 1
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