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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 24

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

SHANNON ROBINSON

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
TO DEVELOP LEGISLATION FOR THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FORTY-
FOURTH LEGISLATURE TO REQUIRE INSURERS TO PROVIDE INSURANCE
COVERAGE FOR MASSAGE THERAPY.

WHEREAS, massage therapists receive countless referrals
from state-licensed physicians for treatment of patients for
chronic and acute muscular pain; and

WHEREAS, medical research demonstrates that massage is
highly effective in treatment of many soft tissue health
problems, more cost effective than most medications and far
less invasive, costly and dangerous than other more
conventional but invasive and traumatizing procedures; and

WHEREAS, soft tissue therapies stimulate the body's own
natural self-healing mechanisms, bring immediate and direct

Underscored material = new
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Underscored material = new
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1 pain reduction, are cost effective and complement preventative
2 medicine techniques; and

3 WHEREAS, chronic back pain is one of the causes of high
4 medical expenses, lost time and low productivity in the work
5 place and is immediately mitigated by soft tissue massage
6 therapy;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
8 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative health and human
9 services committee be requested to develop legislation for the
10 first session of the forty-fourth legislature to require
11 insurers to provide coverage for physician-prescribed soft
12 tissue massage and that the legislation be presented to the
13 legislature by December 1, 1998; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to members of the legislative health and human
16 services committee.

1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

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6 February 4, 1998

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8 Mr. President:

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10 Your RULES COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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12 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 24

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14 has had it under consideration and reports same with
15 recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
16 PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

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19 Respectfully submitted,

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Gloria Howes, Chairman

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Adopted _____ Not

1 Adopted _____

2 (Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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6 Date _____

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9 The roll call vote was 6 For 0 Against

10 Yes: 6

11 No: 0

12 Excused: Aragon, Campos

13 Absent: None

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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

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5 February 16, 1998

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7 Mr. President:

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9 Your PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to whom has been
10 referred

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12 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 24

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14 has had it under consideration and reports same with
15 recommendation that it DO NOT PASS, but that

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17 SENATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

18 FOR SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 24

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21 DO PASS.

22 Respectfully submitted,

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Shannon Robinson, Chairman

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____
(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 5 For 0 Against

Yes: 5

No: 0

Excused: Boitano, Ingle, Smith, Vernon

Absent: None

SJ024PA1

Underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

SENATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 24

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
TO STUDY MASSAGE THERAPY AS IT RELATES TO THE HEALTH CARE
SYSTEM OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, massage therapy is an integral part of
alternative medicine and is represented by approximately three
thousand licensed massage therapists;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislative health and human
services committee be requested to study massage therapy, the
level of training of massage therapists, methods of payment,
physicians' referrals, interactions with other primary care
providers, health clinics and hospitals and other related
federal and state laws relating to medicaid and medicare, and
report back to the first session of forty-fourth legislature;

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1 and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to members of the legislative health and human
4 services committee.

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