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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 46

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999**

INTRODUCED BY  
J. Paul Taylor

A JOINT MEMORIAL

DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO TEST THE FEASIBILITY OF  
IMPLEMENTING A "BEST PRACTICE APPROACH" TO TREATING  
INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING FROM SCHIZOPHRENIA BY USING ATYPICAL  
ANTI-PSYCHOTIC MEDICATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNINSURED  
AND IN TREATMENT IN STATE-FUNDED MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTIONS OR  
IN COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH CARE.

WHEREAS, research on the treatment of the seriously and  
persistently mentally ill has advanced to a point where it is  
feasible to integrate this knowledge with clinical judgment in  
the development of practice guidelines; and

WHEREAS, medication treatment not only has a significant  
impact on the quality of life of patients, but also enhances  
the effectiveness of other treatments; and

WHEREAS, there is a significant population of seriously

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1 and persistently mentally ill persons in New Mexico who do not  
2 have behavioral health insurance coverage and therefore have  
3 limited or no access to the current atypical anti-psychotic  
4 medications; and

5 WHEREAS, the use of practice guidelines in the use of  
6 such medications could improve the quality of treatment and  
7 the accountability of medication treatment;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health assume  
10 responsibility for studying the feasibility of implementing a  
11 "best practice approach" to treating persons suffering from  
12 schizophrenia by using atypical anti-psychotic medications for  
13 those individuals who are uninsured and in treatment in state-  
14 funded mental health institutions or in community-based mental  
15 health care; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health  
17 estimate the census of the population in need of such  
18 medications in state-funded mental health institutions and  
19 community-based mental health programs, and the potential  
20 benefits, resource needs and costs of assuring appropriate  
21 access to such medications; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health  
23 consult with patient advocacy organizations, relevant  
24 psychiatric and primary care communities, the medical  
25 assistance division of the human services department and

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1 appropriate representatives from law enforcement and the  
2 criminal justice system; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of health  
4 report its progress in this effort to the legislative health  
5 and human services committee by October 15, 1999; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
7 sent to the heads of the department of health, patient  
8 advocacy organizations, relevant psychiatric and primary care  
9 communities, the medical assistance division of the human  
10 services department and appropriate law enforcement  
11 departments.

1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999  
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6 February 18, 1999  
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8 Mr. Speaker:  
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10 Your CONSUMER AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to  
11 whom has been referred  
12

13 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 46  
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15 has had it under consideration and reports same with  
16 recommendation that it DO PASS.

17 Respectfully submitted,  
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22 Patsy Trujillo Knauer,  
23 Chairwoman  
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION, 1999

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Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The roll call vote was 6 For 0 Against

Yes: 6

Excused: Vaughn

Absent: None

J: \99BillSWP\HJ046

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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
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March 7, 1999

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Mr. President:

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Your PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to whom has been  
referred

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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 46

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has had it under consideration and reports same with  
recommendation that it DO PASS.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Shannon Robinson, Chairman

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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION, 1999

1 HCPAC/HJM 46

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Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not

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Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

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The roll call vote was 5 For 0 Against

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Yes: 5

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No: 0

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Excused: Boitano, Garcia, Howes, Ingle

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Absent: None

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