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## **FISCAL IMPACT REPORT**

SPONSOR:	Varela	DATE TYPED:	02/07/00	HB	HJM60
SHORT TITLE:	Low Medicare Rates & Unfair Methodology			SB	
			ANALYST:	Esquibel	

## **APPROPRIATION**

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring	Fund
FY00	FY01	FY00	FY01	or Non-Rec	Affected
NA					

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to

## **SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

State Agency on Aging

Department of Health did not respond

NM Health Policy Commission did not respond

Attorney General's Office did not respond

Human Services Department did not respond

Public Regulation Commission did not respond

## **SUMMARY**

### Synopsis of Bill

The memorial requests the Legislative Finance Committee, Department of Health, Human Services Department, Health Policy Commission, Attorney General, State Agency on Aging, health plans and health provider organizations work cooperatively to resolve issues related to low Medicare rates and the unfair, inequitable and discriminatory Medicare methodology for reimbursement.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The State Agency on Aging indicates Medicare managed care plans and other Medicare health providers are, because of low Medicare reimbursement rates, limiting access to health care by no longer accepting Medicare patients or reducing their efforts in New Mexico to provide health care to Medicare beneficiaries. Medicare reimbursement rates in New Mexico are the lowest in the region and one of the lowest in the country.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The State Agency on Aging indicates the group of agencies specified in the memorial should determine a lead agency to coordinate the effort.

RAE/njw