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1 sexually transmitted diseases, including human immunodeficiency
2 virus and acquired immune deficiency syndrome, but receive
3 inadequate care; and

4 WHEREAS, many low-income women face substantial barriers,
5 such as lack of health insurance, that prevent them from
6 receiving regular and necessary medical attention, especially
7 preventative screening for reproductive diseases; and

8 WHEREAS, disparities in health are commonly attributed to
9 differences in income and access to medical services; and

10 WHEREAS, minority and low-income women are not sharing in
11 the health improvements seen in the general population, and it
12 is likely that here in New Mexico they are also not benefiting
13 from reproductive health care services that could improve their
14 health, longevity and quality of life;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of health be requested
17 to conduct and complete a study of racial, ethnic and
18 socioeconomic disparities in reproductive health care in New
19 Mexico; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include, among other
21 topics determined by the department of health to be relevant,
22 an examination of the disparities in use of and access to
23 reproductive health services, including family planning
24 services, abortion and treatment and prevention services for
25 sexually transmitted diseases, human immunodeficiency virus and

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1 acquired immune deficiency syndrome, as well as an examination
2 of the incidence of infant and maternal mortality, sexually
3 transmitted diseases, human immunodeficiency virus, acquired
4 immune deficiency syndrome and diseases affecting the
5 reproductive system; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study also examine the
7 gaps in delivery of reproductive health services, including a
8 review of all services provided by all state agencies to
9 minority or low-income women, and identify strategies to
10 eliminate gaps in service and disparities found to exist in
11 service provision to minority or low-income women; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study identify federal
13 funds available from any federal source, including the national
14 institutes of health, the centers for disease control and
15 prevention and the health resources and services
16 administration, that can be used to develop surveillance
17 systems or research risk factors and prevention strategies, and
18 upon identifying available funding sources, that the department
19 of health use its best efforts to obtain those funds for the
20 purposes of this memorial; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report be presented by the
22 department of health to the interim legislative health and
23 human services committee no later than October 2005, including
24 the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the department
25 of health's study of the racial, ethnic and socioeconomic

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1 disparities in reproductive health care; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the study be
3 transmitted to the library of the legislative council service
4 and members of the interim legislative health and human
5 services committee and be made available to the public; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the secretary of health.

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