

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT MEMBERS OF THE NEW MEXICO CONGRESSIONAL
3 DELEGATION SUPPORT CHANGES TO THE MEDICARE, PART D PROGRAM.

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5 WHEREAS, the medicare, part D program is proving to be
6 one of the most complicated programs ever created with
7 significant and serious implementation problems; and

8 WHEREAS, the benefits promised to senior citizens are
9 not being realized because the program is so difficult to
10 understand; and

11 WHEREAS, a dire need exists to revise the program so
12 that the program can provide the promised benefits;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the members of the New Mexico
15 congressional delegation be requested to support the
16 following changes to the medicare, part D program:

17 A. elimination of the penalty for all medicare-
18 eligible individuals who do not enroll by May 15, 2006;

19 B. inclusion of a requirement that the
20 prescription drug plans drop coverage of drugs on their
21 formularies only after one year advance notice to coincide
22 with the annual open enrollment period, except that drugs
23 that have been determined to be dangerous or removed from the
24 market may be dropped as necessary;

25 C. standardization of the formulary design so that SM 8

1 each plan has the same number of tiers and requirements for
2 coverage;

3 D. modification of the requirements about what can
4 be counted toward a medicare beneficiary's true out-of-pocket
5 cost to include all prescription drugs purchased on behalf of
6 the beneficiary regardless of where the drugs have been
7 purchased; whether the drugs have been purchased through a
8 state pharmacy program or with a discount drug card; or
9 whether the drug is on the formulary of the beneficiary's
10 plan;

11 E. assurance of transparency so that states know
12 the cost negotiated by the prescription drug plan to ensure
13 that all negotiated rebates are passed through to the
14 beneficiaries; and

15 F. institution of price negotiation for the
16 purchase of prescription drugs for the medicare program,
17 similar to the provisions already in place under medicaid and
18 the veterans' administration; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to each member of the New Mexico congressional
21 delegation.

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