

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 54

2 47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Mary Kay Papen

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO DIRECT THE  
12 APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE TESTIMONY ON THE LACK  
13 OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR GENERAL ANESTHESIA FOR  
14 PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY AND RECOMMEND LEGISLATION FOR THE NEXT  
15 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

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17 WHEREAS, dental caries is the most common chronic disease  
18 of childhood and when left untreated, necessitates extensive  
19 restorative treatment; and

20 WHEREAS, for many children, the most appropriate treatment  
21 requires general anesthesia and the operating room; and

22 WHEREAS, insurance coverage, whether dental or general  
23 medical, excludes general anesthesia, resulting in tremendous  
24 expense for families that may dissuade or postpone treatment  
25 until more serious illness results;

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underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
2 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be  
3 requested to direct the appropriate interim committee to  
4 receive testimony on the lack of health insurance coverage for  
5 general anesthesia for pediatric dentistry and recommend  
6 legislation for the next regular legislative session; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
8 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative  
9 council.

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