

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 URGING THE STATE TO SUPPORT RESEARCH ON ADVANCED PARTICLE BEAM  
3 CANCER THERAPY, A PROMISING CLINICAL APPLICATION THAT SHOULD  
4 BE AVAILABLE TO ALL CANCER PATIENTS.

5  
6 WHEREAS, cancer is a devastating disease that has  
7 enormous consequences for those affected and their families;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, in the last six decades, proton beam therapy  
10 has been perfected for clinical use and used with high success  
11 to treat many types of tumors; and

12 WHEREAS, continuing research has shown that heavier  
13 particles, such as carbon ions, when used in cancer therapy,  
14 can have a higher biological effectiveness than proton beam  
15 therapy; and

16 WHEREAS, antiproton particle beams are anticipated to  
17 have an even better efficiency in destroying tumors without  
18 harming surrounding tissue; and

19 WHEREAS, research using antiproton particle beams has  
20 just begun in Europe with promising results; and

21 WHEREAS, New Mexico is an ideal location for advanced  
22 particle beam cancer therapy research because it is the home  
23 of Los Alamos national laboratory, Sandia national  
24 laboratories and the university of New Mexico medical school;  
25 and

1           WHEREAS, Michael Holzscheiter, a renowned physicist and  
2 one of the world's foremost experts on advanced particle beam  
3 cancer therapy, is now living in New Mexico while conducting  
4 his ongoing research locally and at CERN, a large particle  
5 physics laboratory near Geneva, Switzerland;

6           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interim legislative health and  
8 human services committee and the legislative finance  
9 committee be requested to schedule a presentation and report  
10 by physicist Michael Holzscheiter by September 2007 to learn  
11 more about the medical application of advanced particle beam  
12 cancer therapy and to identify new sources of funding to  
13 support ongoing research in New Mexico; and

14           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
15 transmitted to the department of health, the human services  
16 department, the legislative finance committee, the New Mexico  
17 legislative council and the board of regents of the  
18 university of New Mexico.

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