

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION TO CONVENE
3 A MEETING OF PUBLIC ENTITIES ENGAGED IN THE ADMINISTRATION,
4 DELIVERY AND PAYMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN NEW MEXICO TO
5 ELICIT THEIR COOPERATION IN IDENTIFYING AREAS OF COMMON
6 INTEREST AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONSOLIDATION.

7
8 WHEREAS, the New Mexico health policy commission is
9 statutorily charged with developing a plan for and monitoring
10 the implementation of the state's health policy, including
11 obtaining and evaluating information relating to access to
12 health care services in the public and private sector; and

13 WHEREAS, the Health Care Purchasing Act requires
14 consolidated purchasing of publicly financed health insurance
15 benefits for public employees, public school employees and
16 the retirees of public employment and public schools; and

17 WHEREAS, the New Mexico health insurance alliance is a
18 nonprofit, public corporation created for the purpose of
19 increasing access to health insurance in the state, and all
20 health insurance companies authorized to transact health
21 insurance business in the state are required to be members of
22 the alliance; and

23 WHEREAS, the Medical Insurance Pool Act serves to
24 provide access to health insurance for all New Mexicans who
25 are denied adequate health insurance and are considered

1 uninsurable, and all health insurance companies authorized to
2 transact health insurance business in the state are required
3 to be members of the New Mexico medical insurance pool; and

4 WHEREAS, the state coverage insurance program is a
5 public-private venture designed to extend health insurance
6 coverage to the working poor who are at or below two hundred
7 percent of the federal poverty level; and

8 WHEREAS, New Mexico funds two premium assistance
9 programs designed to subsidize the cost of insurance coverage
10 for children and pregnant women; and

11 WHEREAS, these and other plans and programs exist to
12 address the overall health care needs of the residents of New
13 Mexico; and

14 WHEREAS, although the specific purposes of each plan and
15 program may differ, and the populations served by each plan
16 and program may have unique needs, there are undoubtedly many
17 elements that are similar among the plans and programs that
18 would benefit from a more consolidated and efficient approach
19 to administration; and

20 WHEREAS, ideas regarding consolidation of public health
21 care programs and plans have been considered in numerous
22 previous legislative proposals to reform the system of health
23 care in New Mexico and have generally been opposed by the
24 public entities that would be affected by such consolidation;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, the current organization of publicly funded
2 plans and programs results in silos of administration,
3 delivery and payment for health care services; and

4 WHEREAS, an emphasis on cooperation and collaboration
5 can lead to creative solutions that will benefit all New
6 Mexicans;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
8 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico health policy
9 commission be requested to convene a meeting of public
10 entities engaged in the administration, delivery and payment
11 of health care services to elicit their cooperation in
12 identifying areas of common interest and opportunities for
13 consolidation; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that specific recommendations for
15 implementing cooperative and collaborative efforts be
16 developed and reported to the interim legislative health and
17 human services committee during its November meeting; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the New Mexico health policy commission, the
20 retiree health care authority, the risk management division of
21 the general services department, the Albuquerque public
22 schools, the public school insurance authority, the medical
23 assistance division of the human services department, the New
24 Mexico health insurance alliance and the New Mexico medical
25 insurance pool.
