

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 14

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE HOSPITAL-ACQUIRED INFECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO MAXIMIZE ITS EFFORTS UNDER THE
HEALTH-CARE-ACQUIRED INFECTIONS PREVENTION PLAN TO EXTEND
EVIDENCE-BASED INFECTION PREVENTION IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS TO
HOSPITALS STATEWIDE AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.

WHEREAS, the Hospital-Acquired Infection Act was signed
into law on April 7, 2009, establishing the hospital-acquired
infection advisory committee and identifying a scope of work
for that advisory committee; and

WHEREAS, the advisory committee has been overseeing an
initial voluntary participation of six hospitals in the
surveillance and reporting of two indicators of hospital-
acquired infections; and

WHEREAS, the law requires an expansion of the activities

.181613.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 of the initial voluntary program to a statewide program of
2 qualified hospitals by July 1, 2011; and

3 WHEREAS, there is widespread interest in tracking
4 hospital-acquired infections, including federal health reform
5 measures, at least one of which includes requirements to report
6 on health care-associated infections to the federal centers for
7 disease control and prevention and to refuse reimbursement for
8 medicaid payments for certain health care-associated
9 conditions; and

10 WHEREAS, the state of Pennsylvania was the first state in
11 the nation to begin collecting and reporting information about
12 hospital-acquired infections; and

13 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has issued its first report on
14 hospital-acquired infections, entitled *Hospital-Acquired*
15 *Infections in Pennsylvania*, which reflects that hospital-
16 acquired infections were associated with one thousand seven
17 hundred ninety-three deaths and an estimated two hundred five
18 thousand extra hospital days and two billion dollars
19 (\$2,000,000,000) in additional hospital charges in that state;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the vigilant collection and reporting of
22 information regarding hospital-acquired infections in New
23 Mexico could lead to substantial savings for the health care
24 system; and

25 WHEREAS, the federal centers for disease control and

1 prevention has recognized that multiple types of health-care-
2 acquired infections, including bloodstream infections, urinary
3 tract infections, pneumonia and surgical site infections, are
4 highly preventable; and

5 WHEREAS, the federal centers for disease control and
6 prevention has funded a multiyear federal American Recovery and
7 Reinvestment Act of 2009 grant for the New Mexico department of
8 health to develop a program to prevent health-care-acquired
9 infections; and

10 WHEREAS, the department of health has prepared a detailed
11 health-care-acquired infections prevention plan as part of the
12 requirements of this federal grant, including provisions for
13 the establishment of a prevention working group to implement
14 prevention strategies;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the hospital-acquired infection
17 advisory committee in the department of health be requested to
18 maximize its efforts under the health-care-acquired infections
19 prevention plan to extend evidence-based infection prevention
20 improvement efforts to hospitals statewide as rapidly as
21 possible; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, by October of each year, the
23 department of health report to the legislative health and human
24 services committee on its progress under the federal health-
25 care-acquired infections grant; and

.181613.1

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report by the hospital-
2 acquired infection advisory committee on its progress to
3 achieve the goals set forth in this memorial, as well as the
4 statutory requirements of the advisory committee, be presented
5 to the legislative health and human services committee by
6 November 2010; and

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