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A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE  
FEDERAL EXCELLENCE IN MENTAL HEALTH ACT.

WHEREAS, the federal Excellence in Mental Health Act  
would increase access to community behavioral health services  
for all Americans and improve medicaid reimbursement for  
community behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, the Excellence in Mental Health Act would  
create criteria for federally qualified community behavioral  
health centers, as entities designed to serve individuals  
with serious mental illnesses and addiction disorders, that  
provide intensive, person-centered, multidisciplinary,  
evidence-based screening, assessment, diagnostics, treatment,  
prevention and wellness services; and

WHEREAS, community behavioral health centers are  
currently excluded from the minimum reimbursement privileges  
medicaid makes available to federally qualified health  
centers and rural health clinics, and the Excellence in  
Mental Health Act would extend these privileges to federally  
qualified community behavioral health centers; and

WHEREAS, the Excellence in Mental Health Act would  
create a state-administered loan fund to support the  
modernization and construction of community-based mental  
health and addiction treatment facilities; and

1           WHEREAS, the Excellence in Mental Health Act would  
2 extend eligibility for discounted pharmaceutical products to  
3 federally qualified community behavioral health centers; and

4           WHEREAS, the Excellence in Mental Health Act would  
5 elevate behavioral health to be on par with the rest of  
6 health care, giving community behavioral health centers the  
7 opportunity to continue to provide services to New Mexico  
8 residents in need of quality behavioral health services; and

9           WHEREAS, the Excellence in Mental Health Act was  
10 introduced in the United States senate during the second  
11 session of the one hundred eleventh congress; and

12           WHEREAS, the one hundred eleventh congress ended January  
13 3, 2011, before the Excellence in Mental Health Act had a  
14 chance to be voted on by the congress; and

15           WHEREAS, to be voted on by the congress and passed into  
16 law, the Excellence in Mental Health Act must be reintroduced  
17 in the one hundred twelfth United States congress;

18           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the congressional delegation be  
20 requested to do everything it can to have the Excellence in  
21 Mental Health Act reintroduced during the one hundred twelfth  
22 congress; and

23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the congressional delegation  
24 be requested to support the Excellence in Mental Health Act  
25 should it be introduced in the one hundred twelfth congress;

1 and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
3 transmitted to the congressional delegation and the New Mexico  
4 legislature. \_\_\_\_\_

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