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HOUSE MEMORIAL 45

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Dennis J. Kintigh

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE INTERAGENCY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PURCHASING
COLLABORATIVE TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW NEW MEXICO LAW
AND PRACTICES REGARDING CIVIL COMMITMENT PROCEEDINGS AND
TREATMENT GUARDIANSHIP FOR INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH MENTAL
HEALTH DISORDERS.

WHEREAS, there is statewide concern regarding the timely
provision of mental health care to state residents; and

WHEREAS, a number of bills have been introduced in the
first session of the fiftieth legislature concerning the
appropriate entity to petition for civil commitment, consent to
treatment and concerns regarding treatment guardians; and

WHEREAS, involuntary civil commitment in the state is
governed by the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities
Code; and

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1 WHEREAS, there is a diverse statewide interest in
2 resolving these issues of mental health public policy for the
3 benefit of all New Mexicans;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interagency
6 behavioral health purchasing collaborative be requested to
7 convene a task force to address the issues raised in House
8 Bills 497 and 559, as well as House Bill 499 and related
9 legislation introduced during the first session of the fiftieth
10 legislature; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force members
12 include, at a minimum, representatives from the New Mexico
13 district attorney's association; the public defender
14 department; the New Mexico association of counties; the
15 department of public safety; the human services department; the
16 department of health; the aging and long-term services
17 department; the office of guardianship of the developmental
18 disabilities planning council; the New Mexico behavioral health
19 institute; the university of New Mexico health sciences center;
20 other New Mexico psychiatric inpatient treatment facilities;
21 the national alliance on mental illness; four individuals
22 living with mental illness; disability rights New Mexico; the
23 New Mexico mental health association; and representatives from
24 the behavioral health planning council of New Mexico; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested to

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1 report its findings and recommendations to the legislative
2 health and human services committee and to the courts,
3 corrections and justice committee; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the chief executive officer of the interagency
6 behavioral health purchasing collaborative; the chief public
7 defender; the director of the administrative office of the
8 district attorneys; the executive director of the New Mexico
9 association of counties; the secretary of public safety; the
10 secretary of human services; the secretary of health; the
11 secretary of aging and long-term services; and the manager of
12 the office of guardianship of the developmental disabilities
13 planning council.