

HOUSE MEMORIAL 109

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF USING HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR POLICYMAKING THROUGHOUT NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, policies have the potential to affect important health outcomes in communities; and

WHEREAS, using scientific data, health expertise and public input, health impact assessments can provide valuable insight into how a policy, program or practice will affect the health or the health equity of communities; and

WHEREAS, without the use of health impact assessments, unintended health outcomes of particular policies and programs are not clearly identified and can be left unaddressed; and

WHEREAS, from such an assessment, informed decisions can

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1 be made about how to build and strengthen policies, programs or  
2 practices; and

3 WHEREAS, the New Mexico health equity working group and  
4 the Bernalillo county place matters team, along with many other  
5 organizations, academics, professionals and national experts,  
6 have the capacity and will to examine and assess the scope of  
7 potential implementation of health impact assessments in New  
8 Mexico;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
10 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico  
11 legislative council be requested to convene a task force  
12 inclusive of representatives of the New Mexico health equity  
13 working group, the Bernalillo county place matters team and  
14 other organizations, academics, professionals and national  
15 experts to analyze how health impact assessments have been used  
16 successfully in other states and to assess the feasibility and  
17 effectiveness of implementing health impact assessments for  
18 policymaking in New Mexico; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its  
20 findings to the appropriate interim committee no later than  
21 November 2016; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
23 transmitted to the New Mexico legislative council.