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HOUSE MEMORIAL 83

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

INTRODUCED BY

Joanne J. Ferrary

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CHARGE THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WITH HOLDING HEARINGS DURING THE 2019 INTERIM THAT RELATE TO ACCESS TO CARE AND CENTENNIAL CARE 2.0 PROVIDER NETWORK ADEQUACY ISSUES.

WHEREAS, more than nine hundred thousand New Mexicans receive their health care from New Mexico's medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, the human services department projects a general fund need for funding medicaid of almost one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000); and

WHEREAS, the combined total state and federal budget of the human services department is over seven billion dollars (\$7,000,000,000); and

WHEREAS, the delivery of timely medical care by the

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1 provision of adequate provider networks is of paramount  
2 importance; and

3 WHEREAS, centennial care 2.0, enacted in the final months  
4 of the previous administration, reduced the number of managed  
5 care providers from four to three, potentially impacting timely  
6 access to critical medical care for the most needy; and

7 WHEREAS, the upheaval imposed a serious burden on New  
8 Mexico families and individuals in need of medical, behavioral  
9 and long-term care; and

10 WHEREAS, New Mexico currently has a shortage of doctors,  
11 nurses, psychiatrists and other medical professionals; and

12 WHEREAS, New Mexico was ranked the forty-eighth lowest of  
13 the fifty states for access to health care by considering  
14 thirty-three factors, including physicians per one hundred  
15 thousand population and percentage of those with insurance,  
16 according to a recent report by a national physician recruiter;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the human services department requires the three  
19 centennial care managed care organizations that serve medicaid  
20 members in New Mexico to provide adequate geographic access to  
21 primary care and other types of providers; and

22 WHEREAS, those with low incomes on New Mexico's medicaid  
23 program are entitled to federally mandated health care access,  
24 including minimum medical appointment wait times; and

25 WHEREAS, recent reports indicate that the largest managed

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1 care provider may have wait times for the most needy who  
2 receive care under the New Mexico medicaid program that are  
3 reported to be far longer than for other patients; and

4 WHEREAS, a review of the currently configured centennial  
5 care 2.0 program is necessary to make significant changes where  
6 needed, including a re-procurement to address access to care;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
8 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico  
9 legislative council charge the legislative health and human  
10 services committee to conduct hearings during the 2019 interim  
11 relating to the extent to which beneficiaries in the centennial  
12 care 2.0 program are able to access needed medical services for  
13 their health care as determined by wait times for primary care  
14 provider appointments; specialist provider appointments for  
15 members with specific conditions such as high-risk pregnancies,  
16 diabetes, cancer, substance abuse disorder, behavioral health  
17 disorder or hepatitis C; and by the rate of utilization of  
18 medical procedures required to treat these conditions as  
19 recommended by the most current clinical research and the  
20 centennial care 2.0 program's own clinical criteria for these  
21 conditions; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative health and  
23 human services committee conduct hearings related to the impact  
24 that medicaid managed care organizations in centennial care 2.0  
25 have had on access to care for the program's beneficiaries and

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1 what actions have been taken to increase the breadth and depth  
2 of provider networks contracted to serve the program's  
3 beneficiaries and that a report detailing the hearings be made  
4 publicly available by the end of the 2019 interim; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if necessary, the legislative  
6 health and human services committee request a commitment from  
7 the human services department to facilitate a re-procurement  
8 for centennial care 2.0 by December 31, 2019 to ensure that the  
9 program has adequate coverage from selected managed care  
10 organizations to raise the state's current national ranking on  
11 access to care for its beneficiaries and ensure these  
12 beneficiaries are receiving the high-quality health care  
13 deserved by all New Mexicans; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
15 transmitted to the governor, the co-chairs of the New Mexico  
16 legislative council and the chair and vice chair of the  
17 legislative health and human services committee.