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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 26

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

INTRODUCED BY

ELIZABETH T. STEFANICS

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING A CONTINUING COLLABORATION AMONG VARIOUS SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCIES AND ENTITIES TO ENSURE CONTINUED SERVICES FOR PUBLICLY ASSISTED PERSONS NOW RESIDING IN LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES.

WHEREAS, approximately seventy percent of the individuals in long-term care facilities are receiving public assistance; and

WHEREAS, congressional revenue reductions may drastically affect this population and the facilities offering long-term care; and

WHEREAS, several state agencies, departments and divisions, as well as many private entities, including ad hoc organizations, have in the past year participated in various

studies focused on different aspects of long-term care, both inside and outside institutions; and

WHEREAS, it is clear that continued and increased collaboration will be of great benefit to the identified population; and

WHEREAS, the promise of giving regulatory and funding decision responsibility to the states is a long-sought opportunity to create a service delivery system based on the needs of individuals, not on federal reporting and reprisal concerns; and

WHEREAS, this opportunity can lift New Mexico to the forefront of compassionate and responsible public care-giving;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that a continuing collaborative effort on the part of all these entities be led by the human services department, aimed at ensuring a continuation of services for individuals at risk of loss of services, including various levels of institutional, community and in-home care; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that representation from the appropriate divisions of the department of health, the human services department, the medicaid advisory group, the children, youth and families department, the New Mexico health policy commission, the state agency on aging, the New Mexico office of Indian affairs, the attorney general's office, consumer, continuum and advocacy groups and professional and provider

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groups and associations, including organizations and groups representing private funding sources, be included in this collaborative group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the results of this collaborative effort be presented by the human services department to the health care task force and to the interim legislative health and human services committee at their respective September 1996 meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be sent to all the entities named and that the human services department invite all other appropriate entities to participate.

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