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HOUSE BILL 116

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

INTRODUCED BY

Joni Marie Gutierrez

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH; CREATING THE NEW MEXICO POISON AND
DRUG INFORMATION CENTER.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. NEW MEXICO POISON AND DRUG INFORMATION CENTER
CREATED.--The "New Mexico poison and drug information center"
is created as part of the university of New Mexico health
sciences center.

SECTION 2. CERTIFICATION.--The New Mexico poison and drug
information center shall be certified by the American
association of poison control centers.

SECTION 3. DUTIES.--The New Mexico poison and drug
information center shall:

A. provide expert, twenty-four-hour, seven-day-a-
week telephone assistance to the residents of New Mexico during

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1 possible poisoning emergencies;

2 B. provide expert, twenty-four-hour, seven-day-a-
3 week emergency telephone management and treatment referral of
4 victims of poisoning to determine whether treatment can be
5 accomplished at the scene of the incident or if transport to an
6 emergency treatment or other facility is required;

7 C. provide expert, twenty-four-hour, seven-day-a-
8 week telephone treatment recommendations for all types of
9 poisonings, chemical exposures, drug overdoses and exposure to
10 chemical weapons of mass destruction. This information shall
11 be provided to medical and nonmedical providers;

12 D. carry out telephone follow-up for hospitalized
13 and non-hospitalized poison patients to assess progress and
14 recommend additional treatment as necessary;

15 E. carry out telephone follow-up to families and
16 other individuals, where practicable, to ensure that adequate
17 care is provided;

18 F. work to improve the health of the residents of
19 New Mexico by reducing illness and death associated with
20 poisoning and by encouraging proper use of medications;

21 G. identify and address problems associated with
22 poisoning and medication-related illness through education and
23 public service;

24 H. work to reduce the costs associated with
25 poisoning by treating people with less severe exposures at

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1 their homes with the center's guidance;

2 I. train health care professionals in the field of
3 clinical toxicology;

4 J. expand knowledge in the field of clinical
5 toxicology through an active research program;

6 K. prevent poisonings through surveillance of toxic
7 events, education, regulation and collaboration with local,
8 state and federal agencies;

9 L. offer drug information services that provide
10 individualized, accurate, relevant and unbiased information to
11 consumers and health care professionals regarding medication-
12 related inquiries;

13 M. help train pharmacists to become drug
14 information providers;

15 N. seek to effectively use the center's resources;
16 and

17 O. work to advance the center's institutional
18 mission while supporting professional and personal growth.

19 **SECTION 4. EXEMPTION FROM HIRING FREEZES.**--In order to
20 maintain accrediting agency mandated staffing levels, the New
21 Mexico poison and drug information center is exempt from
22 temporary budget hiring freezes at the university of New
23 Mexico.