

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 7

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CONVENE A WORKING  
12 GROUP TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR MAXIMIZING THE LEVERAGING OF  
13 FEDERAL MEDICAID DOLLARS.

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15 WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico has availed itself of the  
16 opportunity offered pursuant to the federal Patient Protection  
17 and Affordable Care Act to expand eligibility for the state  
18 medicaid program, thereby greatly increasing access to health  
19 care for thousands of New Mexicans as well as reimbursement for  
20 New Mexico health care providers; and

21 WHEREAS, partly as a result of expanding medicaid  
22 eligibility, the rate of uninsured adults has declined from  
23 over eighteen percent in 2013 to thirteen and one-tenth percent  
24 as of the second quarter of 2015; and

25 WHEREAS, according to a 2015 legislative finance committee

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1 report, between fiscal years 2014 and 2015, there has been a  
2 thirty percent drop in uncompensated care among the state's  
3 safety net care pool hospitals, and this drop is attributable  
4 in part to the expansion of medicaid; and

5 WHEREAS, federal law contemplates a reduction in the  
6 burden of uncompensated care in the state; therefore, federal  
7 reimbursements are being limited accordingly; and

8 WHEREAS, the federal Patient Protection and Affordable  
9 Care Act offers multiple incentives and opportunities for  
10 states to maximize medicaid funding; and

11 WHEREAS, the 2015 legislative finance committee report  
12 identifies many potential opportunities for the human services  
13 department, the department of health and community health care  
14 providers to maximize their leveraging of medicaid funding that  
15 have not yet been attempted; and

16 WHEREAS, maximizing federal medicaid dollars for services  
17 currently provided by the state will reduce the burden on the  
18 general fund while increasing access to health care;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary of human services be  
21 requested to convene a working group that includes  
22 representatives from the department of health, the children,  
23 youth and families department, legislative finance committee  
24 staff, the New Mexico association of counties, the New Mexico  
25 primary care association and the New Mexico hospital

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1 association to investigate and develop strategies for  
2 maximizing federal medicaid dollars for the state; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative finance  
4 committee be requested to provide staff to the working group to  
5 assist it in carrying out its work; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be requested  
7 to receive input and recommendations from the public; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by November 1, 2016, the  
9 working group be requested to report to the governor, the  
10 legislative finance committee and the legislative health and  
11 human services committee its recommendations and proposed  
12 action steps for administrative, legislative, regulatory,  
13 operational and financial initiatives necessary to maximize  
14 federal medicaid funds for the state; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
16 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of human services,  
17 the director of the legislative finance committee and the chair  
18 and vice chair of the legislative health and human services  
19 committee.