

The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

50th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2012

CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 49

Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE MIMI STEWART



1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO DIRECT THE
3 LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE TO STUDY
4 MEASURES TO REDUCE THE COST OF PROVIDING HEALTH CARE TO
5 INCARCERATED OFFENDERS WHILE MAINTAINING QUALITY OF CARE.
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7 WHEREAS, as of June 30, 2011, the corrections department
8 housed more than six thousand five hundred incarcerated
9 offenders; and

10 WHEREAS, incarcerated offenders frequently have serious
11 medical conditions and include many women with high-risk
12 pregnancies that require intensive medical care; and

13 WHEREAS, according to corrections department data,
14 approximately twenty-five percent of all inmates have a
15 preexisting psychiatric illness and over eighty-five percent
16 of all inmates have a substance abuse or substance dependence
17 disorder; and

18 WHEREAS, the corrections department has recently
19 restructured its health services bureau to integrate and
20 improve the quality of services; and

21 WHEREAS, a goal of the department's strategic plan for
22 2011-2012 is to lower the cost of corrections; and

23 WHEREAS, the detection of fraud, waste and abuse is
24 critical to controlling health care costs; and

25 WHEREAS, detection of fraud, waste and abuse can be

1 accomplished through the analysis of automated health claims
2 data; and

3 WHEREAS, under certain circumstances, including
4 inpatient admission to a hospital, nursing facility, juvenile
5 psychiatric facility or intermediate care facility, federal
6 law permits the corrections department to bill eligible health
7 services provided to incarcerated offenders to the state's
8 medicaid program; and

9 WHEREAS, an automated claims processing system could be
10 used to identify health care claims eligible for submission to
11 the medicaid program; and

12 WHEREAS, the corrections department contracts with
13 various vendors and providers for health care and behavioral
14 health services; and

15 WHEREAS, a periodic review of the corrections
16 department's health care and behavioral health services
17 contracts should be undertaken to identify opportunities for
18 potential cost savings and efficiency while maintaining
19 quality of care;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
21 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
22 legislative council be requested to direct the legislative
23 health and human services committee to work with the
24 corrections department to develop recommendations for
25 achieving cost savings while maintaining quality health care

1 for incarcerated offenders; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative
3 council be requested to direct the legislative health and
4 human services committee to include in its considerations:

5 A. use of state-of-the-art automated claims
6 processing to prevent health care fraud, waste and abuse;

7 B. adoption of an automated web-based system to
8 screen and enroll each inmate at intake for medicaid
9 eligibility and to track each inmate's medicaid eligibility
10 status thereafter;

11 C. use of state-of-the-art automated claims
12 processing to identify health care claims that are medicaid-
13 eligible;

14 D. a review of existing corrections department
15 contracts for health care and behavioral health services to
16 identify potential areas of cost savings and efficiencies
17 while maintaining quality of care; and

18 E. integration of cost-saving measures related to
19 health care and behavioral health services across the
20 corrections department's correctional facilities; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative
22 council be requested to direct the legislative health and
23 human services committee to issue its recommendations by
24 November 1, 2012; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

1 transmitted to the chair and vice chair of the legislative
2 health and human services committee, the secretary of
3 corrections and the health services bureau of the corrections
4 department.

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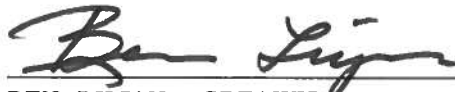
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BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES