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SENATE MEMORIAL 53

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

INTRODUCED BY

Phil A. Griego

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SYSTEMS BUREAU OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO STUDY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
FUNDING OPTIONS FOR RURAL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are essential to the  
health, safety and welfare of the people of rural communities  
because they provide potentially life-saving emergency care and  
transportation to the nearest emergency medical treatment at  
hospital emergency rooms; and

WHEREAS, local government plays an essential role in  
providing emergency medical services with public funds because  
the cost of these services is generally not covered fully by  
the fees for services paid by patients; and

WHEREAS, many local governments, particularly rural  
counties and communities with low-income populations where the

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1 need for emergency medical services funding is especially  
2 acute, do not generate enough tax revenue to provide adequate  
3 funding to sustain reliable and viable emergency medical  
4 services; and

5 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the state of New Mexico  
6 and its residents that rural counties and communities have the  
7 capacity to provide quality and efficient emergency medical  
8 services; and

9 WHEREAS, a steady, reliable and consistent revenue stream  
10 for rural emergency medical services is critically needed for  
11 New Mexico to ensure the public health, safety and welfare of  
12 its residents;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
14 OF NEW MEXICO that the emergency medical systems bureau of the  
15 department of health be requested to initiate a study to  
16 examine certification, licensing, relicensing and funding  
17 options for emergency response services, including the  
18 advantages and disadvantages of nonprofit contractual services  
19 or direct government services, volunteer or paid services,  
20 departments attached to fire departments or independent  
21 services, service levels, geographical limitations and other  
22 factors; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
24 transmitted to the secretary of health, the chief of the  
25 emergency medical systems bureau of the department of health,

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1 the executive director of the New Mexico association of  
2 counties and the executive director of the New Mexico municipal  
3 league.

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