

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 27

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Craig W. Brandt and Paul A. Pacheco

5
6
7
8
9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CHARGE THE
12 LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE DURING THE 2015
13 INTERIM WITH STUDYING THE POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE-DETERRENT OPIOID
14 PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND THE BOARD OF PHARMACY'S PRESCRIPTION
15 DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM TO REDUCE THE RATE OF OPIOID DEPENDENCE
16 IN THE STATE AND THE CONCOMITANT OPIOID-RELATED MORTALITY RATE.

17
18 WHEREAS, in 2013, seventy-one percent of the twenty-two
19 thousand seven hundred sixty-seven deaths in the United States
20 relating to pharmaceutical overdoses involved opioid
21 analgesics; and

22 WHEREAS, in the United States, prescription opioid abuse
23 costs were approximately fifty-five billion seven hundred
24 million dollars (\$55,700,000,000) in 2007; and

25 WHEREAS, New Mexico has the highest rate of opioid drug

.200431.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 overdose deaths in the United States, with almost every county
2 in New Mexico having a higher drug overdose death rate than the
3 rate for the entire United States; and

4 WHEREAS, pharmaceutical opioids can be abused in a number
5 of ways, and new abuse-deterrent opioid products are being
6 developed and are available on the market; and

7 WHEREAS, the board of pharmacy has in place a prescription
8 drug monitoring program with the aim of reducing prescription
9 drug abuse and diversion without interfering with the
10 appropriate medical use of opioid prescription drugs or
11 infringing on the legitimate prescribing of a controlled
12 substance by a practitioner acting in good faith and in the
13 course of a professional practice;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
16 requested to charge the legislative health and human services
17 committee during the 2015 interim with studying the potential
18 for abuse-deterrent opioid prescription drugs to reduce the
19 rate of opioid dependence in the state and the concomitant
20 opioid-related mortality rate; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative health and
22 human services committee be charged during the 2015 interim
23 with reviewing the board of pharmacy's prescription drug
24 monitoring program and hearing testimony from prescribers,
25 pharmacists, the New Mexico drug policy alliance, the board of

.200431.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 pharmacy and other experts regarding the monitoring program's
2 effectiveness in reducing opioid abuse and dependence in the
3 state; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the president pro tempore of the senate, the
6 speaker of the house of representatives, the chair of the
7 legislative health and human services committee, the chair of
8 the board of pharmacy and the executive director of the New
9 Mexico drug policy alliance.