



RESOLUTION 2005-04

URGING THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO TO FULLY FUND NEW MEXICO'S MEDICAID PROGRAM WITH NO FURTHER CUTS

WHEREAS, Over 420,000 (almost one in four) New Mexicans are enrolled in New Mexico's Medicaid Program, including the most vulnerable elderly, people with disabilities, children and those living in extreme poverty; and

WHEREAS, The New Mexico Human Services Department needs \$100 million, or whatever amount is determined necessary to prevent further cuts to the Medicaid budget, to maintain Medicaid benefits and services at current levels; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid is an economic development program with a guaranteed return of \$3 from the federal government for every \$1 New Mexico invests; and

WHEREAS, Every \$1 invested in New Mexico's Medicaid Program generates \$7.46 in economic activity as it cycles through the economy, for a total of \$3 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, Healthcare employs over 71,000 New Mexicans, and these jobs pay 13% higher wages than other industries in the state; and

WHEREAS, 44,619 New Mexico jobs are supported by Medicaid funding; and

WHEREAS, 80% of New Mexico jobs funded by Medicaid are in the private sector and these jobs privately insure more than 35,000 employees and their families; and

WHEREAS, Every \$10 million cut in New Mexico's Medicaid Program results in a loss of 1090 jobs and \$29 million in lost compensation; and

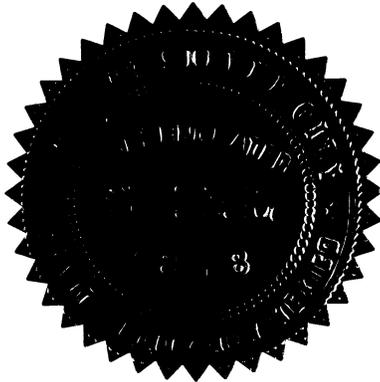
WHEREAS, Reductions in Medicaid provider rates, will force doctors and other providers to close practices, especially in rural areas, and will impose financial burdens on hospitals threatening their continued operation; and

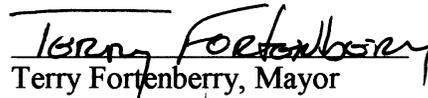
WHEREAS, Reducing Medicaid funding negatively impacts economic development and new businesses will not move into communities that lack a healthcare infrastructure; and

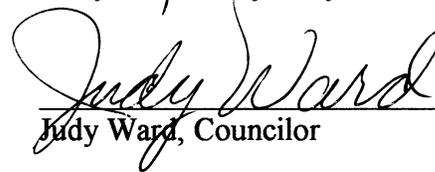
WHEREAS, Not fully funding Medicaid will have an adverse impact on the economic health of our communities and the health of our citizens; and

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NOW THEREFORE, we believe that Medicaid should be fully funded to maintain the program and that no further cuts that affect services or program eligibility should be made.

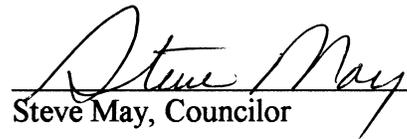



Terry Fortenberry, Mayor


Judy Ward, Councilor


Thomas Nupp, Councilor


Gary M. Clauss, Councilor


Steve May, Councilor

Attest:


Jane Toomajian, Town Clerk