

The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

48th Legislature, 2nd Session

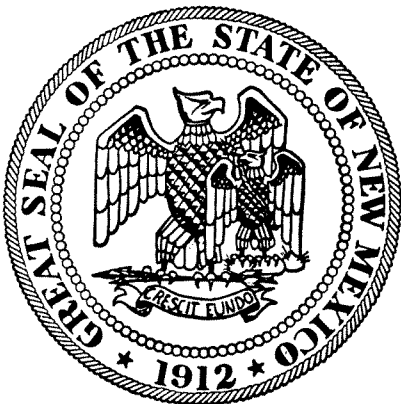
LAWS 2008

CHAPTER _____

HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE MEMORIAL 34

Introduced by



1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION
3 CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY POSSIBLE CORRELATIONS BETWEEN
4 ANTIDEPRESSANTS AND SUICIDAL THOUGHTS AND BEHAVIORS AND TO
5 RECOMMEND SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS ANY CORRELATION.
6

7 WHEREAS, the federal food and drug administration issued
8 a public warning in October 2004 about an increased risk of
9 suicidal thoughts or behaviors in children and adolescents
10 treated with a class of antidepressant medications called
11 selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2006, an advisory committee to the federal
13 food and drug administration recommended that the federal food
14 and drug administration issue a public warning about an
15 increased risk of suicidal thoughts or behaviors in young
16 adults up to the age of twenty-five who are taking selective
17 serotonin reuptake inhibitors; and

18 WHEREAS, in September 2007, a study, published in the
19 *American Journal of Psychiatry*, found that there is not a
20 positive correlation between antidepressants and suicidal
21 thoughts or behaviors in young people; and

22 WHEREAS, studies and professional organizations disagree
23 as to whether the prescription of antidepressant medications
24 should be further regulated or further protocols developed to
25 guard against suicidal thoughts or behaviors among young

1 people; and

2 WHEREAS, according to the treatment for adolescents with
3 depression study, funded by the national institute of mental
4 health, a combination of medication and psychotherapy is the
5 most effective treatment for adolescents with depression; and

6 WHEREAS, the federal food and drug administration has
7 issued guidelines stating that individuals who take
8 antidepressants must be carefully monitored for worsening
9 depression, suicidal thoughts or suicidal behaviors; and

10 WHEREAS, on the basis that some physicians are
11 inadequately monitoring or are unaware of the risks that
12 antidepressants may pose for young people, the state of
13 California has considered legislation that would require all
14 family practice physicians who treat depression by prescribing
15 antidepressants to undergo mandatory continuing medical
16 education on the subject of antidepressant medications;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
18 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
19 health policy commission be requested to convene a task force
20 comprising experts from the human services department and the
21 department of health; medical and behavioral health providers;
22 behavioral health providers with extensive experience in
23 children's behavioral health; and other health care and health
24 policy experts to review available data and consult national
25 experts to review relevant regulatory and statutory issues

1 related to a potential correlation between antidepressant
2 drugs and suicidal thoughts and behaviors and to recommend
3 policy solutions specific to New Mexico to address the
4 correlation, if it exists; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be requested
6 to examine whether providers who prescribe antidepressants
7 should be required to undergo mandatory continuing medical
8 education on the subject of antidepressant medications in
9 order to provide expertise in monitoring the risks that may be
10 associated with antidepressants in young people; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
12 transmitted to the New Mexico health policy commission.

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3.21.2013 11:30 AM
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

S/ BEN LUJAN
BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

S/ STEPHEN R. ARIAS
STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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