

H 548 MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR CHIROPRACTIC COSTS

April 5, 2001

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 78

I have this day VETOED and am returning HOUSE BILL 548, enacted by the Forty-Fifth Legislature, First Session, 2001.

This bill would expand the current Medicaid system to allow licensed doctors of oriental medicine and chiropractic physicians to provide services to Medicaid clients. It also contains a provision that mandates equal pay rates that are not applicable to services delivered within Medicaid managed care. Currently, the Medicaid managed care organizations offer some of the proposed services as enhanced services. This bill removes some of the flexibility that makes the New Mexico Salud! Medicaid managed care program a model of effective efficiency. This flexibility allows the program to address the needs of a varied population by adapting and evolving. Removing this flexibility would only serve to make Salud! less responsive to the needs of New Mexicans who depend on the managed care program for their health care needs and that is unacceptable.

H 553 COVERAGE FOR REQUIRED MEDICAL DIETS

April 5, 2001

HOUSE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 77

I have this day VETOED and am returning HOUSE BILL 553, as amended enacted by the Forty-Fifth Legislature, First Session, 2001.

This bill would require expanded coverage by all insurance plans for medical diets necessary to control inborn errors of metabolism that involve amino acids, carbohydrates and fat. While I am mindful of the problem this legislation is attempting to address, it unfortunately conflicts with House Bill 59 which I signed earlier this session. However, due to the serious nature of the problem addressed in this bill I will direct my Human Services and Health Departments to work together with those affected by this disorder to determine possible solutions so that this issue can be addressed.