



**NEW MEXICO
BUSINESS COALITION**

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RE: SB 15 Oppose Healthcare Consolidation Oversight Act

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) advocates for private sector opportunities to diversify our economy, create job abundance, and help businesses and individuals pursue economic prosperity. NMBC partnerships include being the state affiliate for the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM).

NMBC strongly opposes SB 15 Oppose Healthcare Consolidation Oversight Act. This bill is an overreach of government in normal business operations and is not allowed as a matter of law.

Unfortunately, more of our healthcare businesses will be sold or go out of business. This is a further indication of how difficult it is to do business in New Mexico. If a business is unable to continue for whatever reason, the owner should have the right and be allowed to sell or convey their business.

Some of the constraints on New Mexico's healthcare operations include the Gross Receipts Tax (GRT) structure. This is an unnecessary tax on our healthcare industry and most practitioners cannot pass this tax onto their patients.

The New Mexico Attorney General (NMAG) has pointed out that this bill is a violation of our state's constitution. Therefore, this legislation should not be under consideration in its current form.

The NMAG further noted that issues that are considered to antitrust implications are subject to the New Mexico Anti-Trust Act (NMSA 1978, §§ 57-1-1 et. seq.), which allows the Attorney General and any person threatened with injury to bring anti-trust actions.

For the reasons stated, NMBC strongly opposes SB 15 Oppose Healthcare Consolidation Oversight Act and urges you to say 'NO' to its passage.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carla J. Sonntag".

Carla J. Sonntag
President/CEO