

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 9, 2024 Contact: Joaquin Romero joaquin.romero@nmlegis.gov (505) 506-5798

## House Democrats Delay Bill to Provide Emergency Funding to Rural Hospitals

SANTA FE—Today, Democrats on the House Health and Human Services Committee delayed the advancement of Senate Bill 161, a bill that would provide essential funding for rural hospitals facing closure.

The bill sponsor, **Senator Pat Woods** (R-Broadview), issued the following statement:

"With just six days left in the Legislative Session, this lifeline for our rural hospitals is now in jeopardy. We cannot hang these hospitals out to dry and allow our rural communities to become healthcare deserts. This bill passed the Senate with unanimous bipartisan support. I urge my colleagues in the House to take up this bill immediately for the good of the people of New Mexico."

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