

**TENTATIVE AGENDA  
for the  
THIRD MEETING  
of the  
LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**July 20-21, 2026  
Bataan Hall  
University of New Mexico-Taos  
115 Civic Plaza Drive  
Taos**

**July 22, 2026  
Red River Conference Center  
101 West River Street  
Red River**

**Monday, July 20 — Taos**

- 9:30 a.m.           **Call to Order and Introductions**  
—Representative Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson, Chair  
—Senator Linda M. López, Vice Chair
- 9:45 a.m.           **Welcome to the University of New Mexico (UNM)-Taos**  
—TBD
- 10:00 a.m.       (1)   **[UNM-Taos Health Care Workforce Programs](#)**  
—TBD
- 10:45 a.m.       (2)   **[Department of Health \(DOH\) Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Update](#)**  
—TBD, DOH
- 11:45 a.m.           **Public Comment\***
- 12:00 noon           **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m.       (3)   **[Stability First — A Blueprint for New Mexico: Community Safety, Behavioral Health Supported Living Services, Senate Bill 3 \(2025\) Regional Planning and Workforce Development](#)**  
—Gerald Ortiz y Pino, M.S.W.; Former State Senator, District 12  
—Peter Cubra, Attorney at Law
- 2:30 p.m.       (4)   **[Health Care Authority \(HCA\) Behavioral Health Services Division \(BHSD\) Update](#)**  
—Nick Boukas, Director, BHSD, HCA

3:30 p.m. (5) [Change as an Opportunity: Maximizing Existing Assets in Rural Health](#)  
—Matthew Probst, P.A.-C., Executive Director, Semillas de Salud

4:30 p.m. **Recess**

**Tuesday, July 21 — Taos**

9:30 a.m. (6) [Behavioral Health Investments](#)  
—Allegra Hernandez, Ph.D., Senior Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Finance Committee (LFC)  
—Harry Rommel, Ph.D., Fiscal Analyst, LFC

11:00 a.m. (7) [Providing Behavioral Health Care in Rural Communities](#)  
—Philip Huston, Executive Director, Carlsbad Lifehouse, Inc.

12:00 noon **Public Comment\***

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

1:15 p.m. (8) [Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act Regional Implementation: Region 8](#)  
—Sylvia Barela, M.B.A., Chief Executive Officer, Via Positiva  
—Zachariah Cordova, Director, Health Care Assistance Program, Taos County

2:15 p.m. (9) [Center for Excellence in Social Work Update](#)  
—Sreyashi Chakravarty, Ph.D., Co-Investigator and Assistant Professor, Facundo Valdez School of Social Work (FVSSW), New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU)  
—Anna Nelson, Ph.D., L.C.S.W., Principal Investigator and Director, Center for Excellence in Social Work, FVSSW, NMHU

3:15 p.m. (10) [Rural Health Care Delivery Fund Brief](#)  
—Drew Weaver, Program Evaluator, LFC  
—Danielle Ceballes, Program Evaluator, LFC

4:15 p.m. **Recess**

**Wednesday, July 22 — Red River — Joint Meeting with the LFC**

8:30 a.m. (11) [Overview of New Mexico's Health Care System](#)  
—Allegra Hernandez, Ph.D., Senior Fiscal Analyst, LFC

10:00 a.m. (12) **Cost Drivers in Health Care**  
—Eric Chenier, Principal Analyst, LFC  
—Kari Armijo, Secretary, HCA  
—Viara Ianakieva, Director, Life and Health Division, Office of  
Superintendent of Insurance

11:45 a.m. **Public Comment\***

12:00 noon **Adjourn**

\*Members of the public may make virtual public comments during the public comment period of the meeting by following the instructions under the "Additional Information" section of the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee [web page](#).

If you have a disability and require assistance with accessing a meeting, please [click here to request an accommodation](#). You may also call Robin Garrison at (505) 986-4685 or email [ada.assist@nmlegis.gov](mailto:ada.assist@nmlegis.gov). Please help us prepare your accommodation by submitting your request at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Requests made with less than a 24-hour notice cannot be guaranteed.