

**2009 APPROVED  
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE  
for the  
LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

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**Work Plan and Focus for 2009**

The Legislative Health and Human Services Committee (LHHS) this interim will continue to provide oversight of the Human Services Department (HSD); the Department of Health (DOH); the Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD); the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD); and the Workforce Solutions Department. The committee will review and analyze the state's role in complementing federal "stimulus" legislation, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), and federal health care reform efforts put forward by Congress and the Obama administration upon New Mexico's health and human services climate. Namely, the committee will look at whether this legislation and state action will afford a sustainable expansion of health care coverage and opportunities to achieve legislative goals for health care integration, quality, transparency and disease prevention. The committee will consider what state efforts will be needed to supplement federal action on human services in order to ensure that human services are adequate for meeting the increased need for assistance in employment, housing, nutrition, utility assistance and services directed to New Mexicans who are disabled, elderly or veterans.

Public health coverage programs such as Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (formerly the State Children's Health Insurance Program) and the State Coverage Insurance will be examined in light of ARRA funds, new legislation such as the Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) and the new waiver that may be required to

cover childless adults.

The committee will move forward in its discussion of health information technology, including a health information exchange, electronic medical records, telehealth and the issues of interconnectivity, broadband technology and privacy protection, in light of state-based efforts and ARRA's extensive funding and direction on these matters.

Integration of physical, dental and behavioral care models will also be an important focus for the committee. Models such as the medical home and health commons will be further explored, as will integrated approaches such as school-based health and telehealth centers. Oversight of agencies such as the ALTSD, CYFD, HSD and DOH will examine the extent to which services emphasize an integration of care that addresses physical care and social support needs.

#### Memorials

The committee has been requested, pursuant to House Appropriations and Finance Committee Substitute for House Memorial 94, to investigate the performance of the Human Services Department regarding Medicaid, state coverage insurance and children's health insurance programs, including:

- maximizing ARRA funds;
- eligibility and coverage policies;
- administrative practices; and
- reporting data on enrollment and retention.

Upon completing its investigations, the committee will make legislative recommendations for increasing enrollment, maximizing resources and determining enrollment and coverage policies and administrative practices supporting enrollment and retention.

The committee was requested in House Memorial 102 to examine existing law pertaining to cancer clinical trials and make recommendations for legislation to address the needs of New Mexico children with cancer.

#### Other Areas of Study

The committee proposes to examine:

- early childhood services;
- innovative juvenile justice, domestic violence and interventions for prevention in these matters;
- integrated nutrition programs that connect low-income individuals, children and seniors with locally produced, nutritious food, nutrition education and healthy lifestyle opportunities;
- self-sufficiency, including work force, transportation and housing supports;
- health care work force needs and opportunities;
- long-term care, including home- and community-based waivers and supports for individuals aging in their homes and communities with minimal disruption;

- behavioral health and substance abuse, including a review of the new statewide entity's operations;
- public and private health care delivery systems;
- health behaviors and disease prevention;
- issues relating to prescription drugs, including recycling, re-importation, prior authorization rules and coverage policy;
- public health, including hospital-acquired infections, emergency preparedness and immunizations; and
- site visits to health and human service facilities throughout the state, including the Pueblos of Laguna and Pojoaque and the Mescalero Apache reservation.

Subcommittees:

The committee has received approval for the creation of an ad hoc subcommittee dedicated to exploring comprehensive health care reform in a joint meeting with the Legislative Finance Committee on August 13 in Angel Fire, New Mexico. This subcommittee would be composed of four voting members and four advisory members appointed by the Legislative Council.

A disabilities subcommittee of the committee has been charged with reviewing legislation and health and human services policy in light of the concerns of the disabilities community. The members of the disabilities subcommittee will be appointed by the Legislative Council. Two two-day meetings have been approved for this subcommittee, and the meeting dates will be mutually agreed upon by the appointed members of the subcommittee.

## **2009 APPROVED MEETING SCHEDULE**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 18	Santa Fe
July 6-8	Pueblo of Laguna, Gallup
August 5-7	Ruidoso
September 16-18	Rio Rancho, Albuquerque
October 12-14	Santa Fe, Pueblo of Pojoaque
November 4-6	Santa Fe