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AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH; ENACTING THE PRIMARY CARE COUNCIL ACT;  
CREATING A PRIMARY CARE COUNCIL; ASSIGNING DUTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the  
"Primary Care Council Act".

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Primary Care  
Council Act:

A. "department" means the human services  
department;

B. "primary care" means integrated, accessible  
health care services, provided by clinicians accountable for  
addressing the majority of a patient's personal health care  
needs, developing a sustained partnership with patients and  
practicing in the context of family and community; and

C. "secretary" means the secretary of human  
services.

SECTION 3. PRIMARY CARE COUNCIL CREATED--DUTIES.--

A. The secretary shall create the "primary care  
council" to:

(1) develop a shared description of primary  
care practitioners and services;

(2) analyze annually the proportion of  
health care delivery expenditures allocated to primary care

1 statewide;

2 (3) review national and state models of  
3 optimal primary care investment with the objectives of  
4 increasing access to primary care, improving the quality of  
5 primary care services and lowering the cost of primary care  
6 delivery statewide;

7 (4) review New Mexico state and county data  
8 and information about barriers to accessing primary care  
9 services faced by New Mexico residents;

10 (5) recommend policies, regulations and  
11 legislation to increase access to primary care, improve the  
12 quality of primary care services and lower the cost of  
13 primary care delivery while reducing overall health care  
14 costs;

15 (6) coordinate efforts with the graduate  
16 medical education expansion review board and other primary  
17 care workforce development initiatives to devise a plan that  
18 addresses primary care workforce shortages within the state;

19 (7) report annually to the interim  
20 legislative health and human services committee and the  
21 legislative finance committee on ways that primary care  
22 investment could increase access to primary care, improve the  
23 quality of primary care services, lower the cost of primary  
24 care delivery, address the shortage of primary care providers  
25 and reduce overall health care costs; and

1 (8) develop and present to the secretary a  
2 five-year plan to determine how primary care investment could  
3 increase access to primary care, improve the quality of  
4 primary care services, lower the cost of primary care  
5 delivery, address the shortage of primary care providers and  
6 reduce overall health care costs.

7 B. The primary care council shall include nine  
8 voting members and thirteen advisory members, appointed by  
9 the secretary, and shall consist of:

10 (1) one member from the department;

11 (2) one member from the department of  
12 health;

13 (3) one member from the office of  
14 superintendent of insurance;

15 (4) one member from a statewide organization  
16 representing federally qualified health centers in New  
17 Mexico;

18 (5) five members from statewide  
19 organizations representing primary care providers or  
20 statewide health professional societies or associations; and

21 (6) thirteen nonvoting members representing  
22 health care and other stakeholders, in an advisory capacity.

23 C. The chair of the primary care council shall be  
24 elected by the voting members of the council.

25 D. The council shall meet at the call of the

1 chair.

2 E. Members of the council shall not be paid per  
3 diem and mileage or other compensation for their services.

4 F. The secretary shall provide staff support for  
5 the council in the performance of its duties.

6 G. A simple majority of the voting members of the  
7 council constitutes a quorum.

8 H. The council shall hold its first meeting no  
9 later than October 1, 2021. \_\_\_\_\_

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