

APPROVED WORK PLAN, MEETING SCHEDULE AND BUDGET
for the
LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
2004 INTERIM

Committee Membership:

Senator Dede Feldman, chair
Representative J. Paul Taylor, vice chair
Senator Rod Adair
Senator Steve Komadina

Representative Terry T. Marquardt
Representative Rory J. Ogle
Senator Mary Kay Papen
Representative Jim Trujillo

Advisory Members:

Sen. Manny M. Aragon
Rep. Gail C. Beam
Sen. Sue Wilson Beffort
Rep. Ray Begaye
Rep. William "Ed" Boykin
Rep. Ron Godbey
Rep. John A. Heaton
Sen. Timothy Z. Jennings
Sen. Linda M. Lopez

Rep. Antonio Lujan
Rep. James Roger Madalena
Rep. Rick Miera
Rep. Al Park
Rep. Danice Picraux
Sen. Bernadette M. Sanchez
Rep. Edward C. Sandoval
Rep. Gloria C. Vaughn

Work Plan

According to Section 2-13-1 NMSA 1978, the charge of the interim legislative health and human services committee is to "conduct a continuing study of the programs, agencies, policies, issues and needs relating to health and human services".

In keeping with this mandate, the committee proposes to hold oversight hearings with the four major relevant departments: the human services department (HSD); the department of health (DOH); the children, youth and families department (CYFD); and the newly created aging and long-term services department (ALTSD), including a review of the agencies' strategic plans for the coming year and possible difficulties of the respective departments.

The committee also proposes to continue its detailed focus on HSD's implementation of the approximately three dozen program changes, studies, analyses, pilot projects and administrative changes directed by Laws 2003, Chapters 279, 314 and 315 as developed by the medicaid reform committee.

The committee proposes to finish the health care finance study, a survey of funds expended on health care in the state, the impact of those expenditures on the state's economy and the cost of providing health care to all New Mexicans.

The committee also proposes to examine and monitor various medicaid cuts and

medicaid administrative changes made by HSD in addition to those mandated by legislation and to monitor the department's efforts to identify and insure the more than 400,000 uninsured state residents under a \$900,000 federal HRSA grant and to track the implementation of the SCI (state coverage initiative), revised from that developed under the previous administration, but not yet fully funded.

The committee anticipates that these two studies will provide baseline information for present and future health care planning and programs and increasing coverage and access to health care.

In addition to these major efforts, the committee proposes to continue its long-standing commitment to bring health and human needs to the attention of the legislature after hearing from many organizations and advocates.

The committee also proposes to continue its efforts to reduce the cost of prescription drugs both in public programs and to all New Mexico citizens by reviewing the application of the preferred drug list (PDL) program required by the legislature to be developed by HSD two years ago, and examining the effects of the new medicare pharmacy reforms on price and availability.

The committee proposes to focus on public planning for the care of New Mexico seniors. The state's elderly population is projected to more than double by 2020 and approximately 70 percent of Americans' health care expenses are incurred in the last six months of life, placing greater demands on public funding of health care.

The committee will continue to look at the state's health care work force, which is not staying current with the state's demands in spite of increased educational efforts. The committee also proposes to examine the unique and complex border health problems at the committee's September meeting in Las Cruces.

The committee proposes to monitor the impact of federal changes to both medicaid and medicare as well as the implementation of HSD's behavioral health purchasing collaborative and DOH's comprehensive strategic health plan with an eye toward ensuring a stronger emphasis on preventive measures in these programs.

The committee proposes to review the tax breaks provided by the last legislative session to physicians to ensure that sufficient numbers of medical specialists remain in New Mexico and to examine the benefit of increased educational support as well as tax incentives for professionals, including medical doctors, family nurse practitioners and physician assistants in underserved areas.

While the executive branch is moving to coordinate all behavioral health expenditures and programs statewide under the new behavioral health care purchasing collaborative, the committee proposes to devote time to the continuing crises of alcoholism and drug addiction in

New Mexico and to hear from the DOH's newly appointed experts in the fields of drug abuse, mental health and DWI.

Continuing implementation of changes called for by the *Olmstead* decision will also demand committee attention as will the severe cuts in such long-standing and successful efforts as the maternal and child health programs. The committee proposes to review new early childhood, teen pregnancy and other initiatives undertaken by the children's cabinet, and will take testimony on the continuing issues of domestic violence, suicide, especially teen suicide, and sufficiency and quality of day care.

The legislative council directed the committee to hear issues related to medical malpractice, particularly as it affects obstetricians and gynecologists, at the September meeting in Las Cruces.

The committee will also receive reports called for by joint memorials passed by the legislature relating to health care.

The committee's meeting schedule and budget is as follows:

June 15	Santa Fe	\$2,030.50
July 12 - 14	Albuquerque	4,200.75
August 25 - 27	Santa Fe	4,366.50
September 8 - 10	Las Cruces	4,467.00
October 12 - 14	Santa Fe	4,366.50
November 17 - 19	Santa Fe	<u>4,366.50</u>
	TOTAL	*\$23,797.75

*Budget does not include funding for advisory committee members' per diem and travel.

HB 955 Study	\$70,000 appropriated
* Contract for compilation of total health care expenditures and sources of revenue	\$20,000
* Economic impact study (NMSU)	\$20,000
* Health policy review of innovations in other states	\$10,000
* Additional research/analysis/expert testimony	<u>\$20,000</u>
TOTAL	\$70,000