

**MINUTES
of the
SEVENTH MEETING
of the
COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**October 9-10, 2024
Stan Fulton Athletics Center's Villanueva Victory Club
New Mexico State University
1815 Wells Street
Las Cruces**

The seventh meeting of the Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee was called to order by Representative Christine Chandler, chair, on October 9, 2024 at 9:36 a.m. at the Stan Fulton Athletics Center's Villanueva Victory Club at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

Present

Rep. Christine Chandler, Chair
Sen. Joseph Cervantes, Vice Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Rep. Gail Chasey
Sen. Katy M. Duhigg*
Rep. Alan T. Martinez
Sen. Greg Nibert
Sen. Peter Wirth*

Absent

Rep. Janelle Anyanonu
Sen. Gregory A. Baca
Sen. Antonio Maestas
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Andrea Reeb
Rep. William "Bill" R. Rehm
Rep. Andrea Romero
Rep. Angelica Rubio
Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez

Advisory Members

Rep. John Block (10/10)
Rep. Cynthia Borrego
Rep. Micaela Lara Cadena
Rep. William A. Hall II
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Mimi Stewart
Rep. Reena Szczepanski (10/10)

Rep. Ambrose Castellano
Rep. Jared A. Hembree
Sen. Daniel A. Ivey-Soto
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Sen. Linda M. López
Rep. Stefani Lord
Rep. Tara L. Lujan
Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle

Guest Legislators

Sen. Crystal Brantley
Rep. Jenifer Jones (10/10)

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

*Appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives or the president pro tempore of the senate as a voting member for this meeting only.

Staff

Nancy Martinez, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)

Sean Dolan, Staff Attorney, LCS

Simon Suzuki, Staff Attorney, LCS

Domenica Nieto, Research Assistant, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and are posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Wednesday, October 9**Welcome and Introductions (9:36 a.m.)**

Representative Chandler welcomed everyone and asked committee members to introduce themselves.

Corrections Overview (9:47 a.m.)

Alisha Tafoya Lucero, secretary, Corrections Department, updated the committee on new programs throughout the Corrections Department, spoke about what is and is not working for inmates, spoke about recidivism and the efforts to limit the recidivism rate and answered questions from committee members regarding the department and potential legislation.

Parole Board Modernization (11:19 a.m.)

Denali Wilson, staff attorney, American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico, presented a draft bill aimed at attracting more people to be members of the Parole Board, discussed parole board changes across the country and answered committee members' questions regarding the bill and Parole Board. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=3>.

Local Law Enforcement Perspectives (11:39 a.m.)

Kim Stewart, sheriff, Dona Ana County, and Jeremy Story, chief, Las Cruces Police Department, provided an overview of crime in Dona Ana County, including providing data,

pictures and videos. The panel answered questions from committee members. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=4>.

New Mexico Justice Reinvestment Working Group: Summary of Policy Recommendations (1:23 p.m.)

Kevin Burns, captain and working group chair, San Juan County Sheriff's Office; Len Engel, director, Policy and Campaigns, Crime and Justice Institute; and Colleen Bogonovich, senior policy specialist, Crime and Justice Institute, presented a national view of policy recommendations being introduced around the country and answered committee members' questions regarding which policies are working best. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=5>.

Competency Diversion Pilot Program — Third Judicial District (2:04 p.m.)

The Honorable G. Alexander Rossario, Dona Ana County Magistrate Court, Division 7, and lead judge, Third Judicial District Competency Diversion Pilot Program, and Jamie Michael, director, Health and Human Services, Dona Ana County, described the Third Judicial District's competency diversion pilot program and the program's recent successes. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=6>.

Housing and Public Safety Solutions (3:08 p.m.)

Rachel Biggs, chief strategy officer, Albuquerque Health Care for the Homeless, Inc., and Nicole Martinez, executive director, Mesilla Valley Community of Hope, provided an overview of what their respective programs do, the successes of each program and what the programs hope to continue doing. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=7>.

Public Comment (4:27 p.m.)

A list of individuals making public comment is available in the meeting file.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:39 p.m.

Thursday, October 10

Reconvene

Representative Chandler reconvened the meeting at 9:07 a.m.

Update on the Health Care Consolidation Oversight Act (2024 Legislative Session) — Plans for the 2025 Legislative Session (9:14 a.m.)

Representative Szczepanski; Senator Duhigg; Alice T. Kane, superintendent, Office of Superintendent of Insurance; and Jane Wishner, health policy consultant, provided a brief update on the implementation of the Health Care Consolidation Oversight Act, answered questions from committee members and discussed potential future changes to the act. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=8>.

Health Care Merger and Acquisition Considerations (9:38 a.m.)

Troy Clark, president and chief executive officer, New Mexico Hospital Association, answered committee members' questions regarding the position of the association on how the implementation of the Health Care Consolidation Oversight Act is progressing.

Question and Answer Period on Health Care Presentations (9:47 a.m.)

Committee members engaged in a question and answer period with Ms. Kane, Ms. Wishner and Mr. Clark. It was an open discussion regarding all aspects of the Health Care Consolidation Oversight Act.

The Corporatization of Medicine: Opportunities and Concerns (10:34 a.m.)

Robert "Tyler" Braun, Ph.D., discussed the history of large- and small-scale hospital mergers from a national perspective. There was robust questioning from the committee regarding how the national trends translate to New Mexico. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=10>.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Closed Meeting): Memorial Medical Center Investigation Update (10:55 a.m.)

Private Equity Acquisitions in Health Care: Evidence to Date (2:05 p.m.)

Zirui Song, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor, Health Care Policy and Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital, presented via Zoom and discussed his research regarding private equity acquisitions in health care and how care has changed for the patients. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=11>.

The Private Equity Playbook (3:16 p.m.)

Aditi Sen, managing director, Research and Campaigns, Americans for Financial Reform, presented on the financial side of hospital private equity acquisitions and mergers. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=10/9/2024&ItemNumber=12>.

Private Equity Contributions to New Mexico Health Care (3:39 p.m.)

Mr. Clark briefly presented to the committee and answered questions.

Measuring the Quality of Care in New Mexico Nursing Homes (4:07 p.m.)

Vicente Vargas, executive director, New Mexico Health Care Association/New Mexico Center for Assisted Living, presented his perspective on nursing home care in New Mexico and discussed private equity in nursing homes.

Approval of Minutes (4:26 p.m.)

The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the September 9-11, 2024 meeting.

Public Comment (4:48 p.m.)

A list of individuals making public comment is available in the meeting file.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.