

**MINUTES
of the
SIXTH MEETING
of the
LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**October 16-18, 2023
Stan Fulton Athletics Center's Villanueva Victory Club
New Mexico State University
1815 Wells Street
Las Cruces**

The sixth meeting of the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee (LHHS) was called to order by Senator Gerald Ortiz y Pino, chair, on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 9:08 a.m. at the Stan Fulton Athletics Center's Villanueva Victory Club at New Mexico State University (NMSU) in Las Cruces.

Present

Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino, Chair
Rep. Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson, Vice Chair
Rep. Eleanor Chávez
Sen. David M. Gallegos (10/16, 10/17)
Rep. Pamela Herndon
Sen. Martin Hickey
Rep. Jenifer Jones (10/18)

Advisory Members

Rep. John Block (10/16, 10/17)
Rep. Kathleen Cates
Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary
Rep. Tara L. Lujan (10/16, 10/17)
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto (10/16, 10/17)
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez (10/16)
Rep. Harlan Vincent

Absent

Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez

Rep. Gail Chasey
Sen. Katy M. Duhigg
Rep. Miguel P. García
Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill
Rep. Tara Jaramillo
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Sen. Linda M. Lopez
Rep. Stefani Lord
Rep. Alan T. Martinez
Rep. Cristina Parajón
Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero
Sen. Gregg Schmedes
Sen. Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics
Rep. Reena Szczepanski
Sen. Bill Tallman

Guest Legislator:

Rep. Micaela Lara Cadena

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

Staff

Zander Dawson, Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Andrea Lazarow, Bill Drafter, LCS
Grace Balderamos, Staff, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and 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.

Monday, October 16**Welcome and Introductions (9:08 a.m.)**

Senator Ortiz y Pino welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Welcome to NMSU (9:13 a.m.)

Yoshi Iwasaki, Ph.D., inaugural dean, College of Health, Education and Social Transformation (HEST), NMSU, welcomed the committee to NMSU. He and Phillip Post, Ph.D., associate dean of academic affairs, College of HEST, NMSU, gave an update about the College of HEST. Elsa Arroyos, Ph.D., department head, Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology, NMSU, discussed the services that the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology offers to NMSU students. Becky Pearson, department head, Department of Public Health Sciences, NMSU, highlighted the mission and goals of the Department of Public Health Sciences. Heike Lehnert-LeHouillier, Ph.D., department head, Department of Communication Disorders, NMSU, gave an update on NMSU's autism diagnostic center. Chris Aiken, Ph.D., department head, Department of Kinesiology, NMSU, talked about the pre-professional preparation that the Department of Kinesiology provides to students and noted that the number of students majoring in kinesiology is increasing. Madeline Chelanor, D.N.P., founding program director, Nurse Anesthesiology Program, NMSU, discussed the Nurse Anesthesiology program's focus on rural health care. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%201%20HEST%20.pdf>.

Updates from the Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI) (10:45 a.m.)

Paige Duhamel, Esq., health care policy manager, OSI, and Colin Baillio, director, Coverage Affordability and Expansion, OSI, explained the implementation of provisions of

Senate Bill 273 (2023) and discussed mental health parity. They provided an overview of the OSI's recent coverage-affordability initiatives and research. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%202%20OSI%20Mental%20Health%20Parity.pdf>.

Public Comment (11:59 a.m.)

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

Working Lunch: Behavioral Health Solutions (12:20 p.m.)

Vicente Vargas, executive director, New Mexico Health Care Association/New Mexico Center for Assisted Living; Bill Treese, chief executive officer (CEO), Behavioral Health Solutions; Kristi Kovacs, Ph.D., executive program director and co-founder, Behavioral Health Solutions; and Brian Martin, M.P.A., chief financial officer, Behavioral Health Solutions, compared and contrasted Behavioral Health Solutions' programs in New Mexico to its programs in other states. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%203%20Behavioral%20Health%20Solutions.pdf>.

Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine (BCOM) (1:15 p.m.)

John Hummer, M.H.A., president and CEO, BCOM, and Pilar Faulkner, governmental affairs liaison, BCOM, gave an update about the BCOM's student body demographics and residency placements and highlighted the BCOM's economic contributions to the state and surrounding areas. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%204%20BCOM.pdf.pdf>.

New Mexico Association for Home and Hospice Care (2:03 p.m.)

Meggyn Lorino, M.S.W., executive director, New Mexico Association for Home and Hospice Care; Amy Corbin, member at large, Community HomeCare; and Phil London, Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society, emphasized the importance of home health care and described challenges faced by personal care service providers. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%205%20NMAH&HC.pdf>.

Anna, Age Eight Institute (3:31 p.m.)

Katherine Ortega Courtney, Ph.D., co-director, Anna, Age Eight Institute, and co-developer, 100% New Mexico Initiative, discussed the 100% New Mexico Initiative's mission to decrease adverse social determinants of health in New Mexico and the initiative's recently administered 100% community survey. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%206%20Anna,%20Age%20Eight.pdf>.

Approval of Minutes (4:15 p.m.)

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, and without any objections, the committee approved the minutes of the September 18-20, 2023 meeting.

Brainstorming Session (4:25 p.m.)

Representative Cates led the committee in a brainstorming session focused on potential legislation that could address the issues presented to the committee.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:41 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17**Reconvene**

The meeting reconvened at 9:16 a.m.

New Mexico Caregivers Coalition (NMCC) (9:17 a.m.)

Adrienne R. Smith, president and CEO, NMCC, explained how expanding Medicaid to cover personal care services could improve the personal care services workforce. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%207%20NMCC.pdf>.

Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver and Developmental Disabilities Waiver Updates (10:15 a.m.)

Lorelei Kellogg, director, Medical Assistance Division, Health Care Authority Department, and Jose Acosta, director, Developmental Disabilities Supports Division, Department of Health (DOH), explained updates to the Medicaid 1115 demonstration waiver and developmental disabilities waiver and changes that will occur as the Human Services Department transitions to the Health Care Authority Department. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%208%20Waiver%20Updates.pdf>.

Public Comment (11:56 a.m.)

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

Association of Developmental Disabilities Community Providers (ADDCP) (1:10 p.m.)

Jim Copeland, executive director, ADDCP, explained the ADDCP's concerns about the state's current systems of care for individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%209%20ADDCP.pdf>.

Disability Rights New Mexico (DRNM) (2:14 p.m.)

Gary Housepian, CEO, DRNM, and Tim Gardner, director, Legal Services, DRNM, discussed boarding home licensure, funding for the developmental disabilities waiver, managed care organization oversight and responsiveness and the implementation of the *Kevin S.* settlement. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%2010%20DRNM.pdf>.

Dona Ana County Health and Human Services Department (3:26 p.m.)

Jamie Michael, health and human services director, Dona Ana County Health and Human Services Department, provided information about programs and services that the Dona Ana County Health and Human Services Department offers, such as the health care assistance program and crisis triage center. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%2011%20Dona%20Ana%20County.pdf>.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:19 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18**Reconvene**

The meeting reconvened at 9:09 a.m.

LHHS Study Updates (9:10 a.m.)

Scott Leitz, vice president, Health Care Programs, and project executive advisor, National Opinion Research Center (NORC); Megan Stead, senior research director and project director, NORC; and Chuck Betley, senior research scientist and project manager, NORC, provided a report on analyses related to health care cost drivers in New Mexico that included information about the feasibility of global budgets for rural hospitals in the state. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%2012%20Global%20Budget%20Study.pdf>.

LHHS Study Updates (10:32 a.m.)

Mr. Leitz and Elizabeth McOsker, research scientist, Health Care Programs, and project manager, NORC, provided a report on analyses related to health care cost drivers in New Mexico that included methods to reduce administrative costs in the state's health care system. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%2013%20Administrative%20Costs%20Study.pdf>.

DOH Boarding Home Update (11:19 a.m.)

Patrick Allen, secretary, DOH, and Christopher Burmeister, director, Division of Health Improvement, DOH, discussed the history of boarding homes in New Mexico, how boarding homes in the state currently operate, the possible future of boarding homes and how other states regulate boarding homes. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%2014%20DOH%20Boarding%20Homes.pdf>.

Public Comment (12:02 p.m.)

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

Working Lunch: Addressing Rising Health Care Costs (12:33 p.m.)

Mary Feldblum, Ph.D., executive director, Health Security for New Mexicans Campaign, described key health care cost drivers in New Mexico and possible policy solutions to address them. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20101623%20Item%2015%20Cost%20Drivers.pdf>.

Brainstorming Session (1:24 p.m.)

Senator Ortiz y Pino led the committee in a brainstorming session focused on potential legislation that could address the issues presented to the committee.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:31 p.m.