AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE; ENACTING THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH
INSURANCE EXCHANGE ACT; CREATING THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH
INSURANCE EXCHANGE; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT, POWERS AND
DUTIES OF A BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE EXCHANGE; PROVIDING
THE SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE OF THE PUBLIC REGULATION
COMMISSION WITH RULEMAKING POWERS RELATING TO THE EXCHANGE;
PROVIDING FOR POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE EXCHANGE; PROVIDING
FOR TRANSPARENCY OF EXCHANGE FUNDING AND OPERATIONS; AMENDING
AND ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978; RECONCILING MULTIPLE
AMENDMENTS TO THE SAME SECTION OF LAW IN LAWS 2009.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.--Sections 1 through 9 of this act may be cited as the "New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act".

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act:

- A. "board" means the board of directors of the exchange;
- B. "carrier" means a person that is subject to licensure by the superintendent or subject to the provisions of the New Mexico Insurance Code and that provides one or more health benefits or insurance plans in the state;
 - C. "dependent" means "dependent" as defined in

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eligible for services and programs provided to Native

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an individual who has been deemed

Americans by the United States public health service or the bureau of Indian affairs;

- J. "qualified employer" means a small employer that elects to make its full-time employees, and, at the option of the employer, some or all of its part-time employees, eligible for one or more qualified health plans offered in the small group market through the exchange; provided that the employer:
- (1) has its principal place of business in the state and elects to provide coverage through the exchange to all of its eligible employees, wherever employed; or
- (2) elects to provide coverage through the exchange to all of its eligible employees who are principally employed in the state;
- K. "qualified health plan" means health insurance coverage or a group health plan that the board has determined as meeting the requirements in federal law for coverage to be offered through the exchange;
 - L. "qualified individual" means an individual who:
- (1) seeks to enroll or who participates in a qualified health plan offered through the exchange and who meets one of the following residency requirements:
- (a) the individual is a resident of the state and is, and continues to be, legally domiciled and physically residing on a full-time basis in a place of

1	habitation in the state that remains the person's principal
2	residence and from which the person is absent only for a
3	temporary or transitory purpose;
4	(b) the individual is a full-time
5	student attending an educational institution outside of the
6	state but, prior to attending the educational institution,
7	met the requirements of Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph;
8	(c) the individual is a full-time
9	student attending an institution of higher education located
10	in the state;
11	(d) the individual, whether a resident
12	or not, is a dependent; or
13	(e) the individual, whether a resident
14	or not, is an employee of a qualified employer;
15	(2) is not incarcerated at the time of
16	enrollment, other than incarceration pending the disposition
17	of charges; and
18	(3) is a citizen or national of the
19	United States or an alien lawfully present in the United
20	States, or who is reasonably expected to be a citizen or
21	national of the United States or an alien lawfully present in
22	the United States during the entire period for which
23	enrollment in the exchange is sought;
24	M. "small employer" means a person that is

actively engaged in business that employed an average of at

the person is not a self-insured entity;

"superintendent" means the superintendent of insurance of the insurance division of the public regulation commission or the division's successor in interest.

SECTION 3. NEW MEXICO HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE CREATED -- BOARD CREATED .--

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Α. The "New Mexico health insurance exchange" is created as a nonprofit public corporation to provide qualified individuals and qualified employers with increased access to health insurance in the state and shall be governed by a board of directors constituted pursuant to the provisions of the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act. The exchange is a governmental entity for purposes of the Tort Claims Act, and neither the exchange nor the board shall be considered a governmental entity for any other purpose.

- B. The "board of directors of the New Mexico health insurance exchange" is created. The board consists of eleven voting members. One voting ex-officio member is the secretary of human services, the secretary of the human services department's successor in interest responsible for the state's medicaid program or the secretary's designee. One nonvoting ex-officio member is the superintendent or the superintendent's designee.
- c. Managerial and full-time employees of the exchange and appointed members, while serving on the board, except those whom the superintendent appoints from the New Mexico medical insurance pool and those whom the governor appoints from the New Mexico health insurance alliance boards of directors, who shall not be considered to have a conflict of interest with respect to their association with those entities, shall not have any affiliation with or any income derived from:

1	(1) current or active employment as, a
2	contract with or consultation for a health care provider; or
3	(2) current or active employment in, a
4	contract with or consultation for the health care services
5	finance or coverage sectors.
6	D. Each board member and employee of the exchange
7	shall have a fiduciary duty to the exchange.
8	E. The board shall be composed, as a whole, to
9	assure representation of the state's Native American
10	population, ethnic diversity, cultural diversity and
11	geographic diversity. Board members shall have demonstrated
12	knowledge or experience in at least one of the following
13	areas:
14	(1) purchasing coverage in the individual
15	market;
16	(2) purchasing coverage in the small
17	employer market;
18	(3) health care finance;
19	(4) health care economics;
20	(5) health care policy;
21	(6) the enrollment of underserved residents
22	in health care coverage; or
23	(7) administering private or public health
24	care insurance.
25	F. Selection of the ten appointed voting members $\frac{SCORC/SB}{Page}$ 38 & 370

shall be as follows:

(1) the governor shall appoint three members selected from the New Mexico health insurance alliance board of directors who represent qualified employers. If the New Mexico health insurance alliance ceases to exist, members appointed by the governor shall be chosen from officers, general partners or proprietors of qualified employers;

members selected from the New Mexico medical insurance pool board of directors, who shall represent individual consumers in the health insurance market. If the New Mexico medical insurance pool ceases to exist, members appointed by the superintendent shall be chosen from among the following, each of whom shall be a resident of the state:

(a) individuals who are not professionally affiliated with a carrier; and

- (b) individuals who have purchased coverage in the exchange; and
- (3) members of the legislature shall appoint four members as follows: the president pro tempore of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate minority leader and the house minority leader shall each appoint one member.
- G. The members selected from the New Mexico health insurance alliance board and the New Mexico medical insurance

pool board shall have terms that coincide with terms of membership on their respective originating boards. The members selected by members of the legislature shall have initial terms chosen by lot as follows: two shall serve four-year terms and two shall serve three-year terms. Thereafter, members shall serve three-year terms.

- H. A member shall serve until the member's successor is appointed by the respective appointing authority.
- I. The exchange and the board shall operate consistent with provisions of the Governmental Conduct Act, the Inspection of Public Records Act, the Financial Disclosure Act and the Open Meetings Act and shall not be subject to the Procurement Code or the Personnel Act.
- J. A majority of members constitutes a quorum.

 The board may allow members to attend meetings by telephone or other electronic media. A decision by the board requires a quorum and a majority of members in attendance voting in favor of the decision.
- K. Within sixty days of the effective date of the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act, the superintendent shall convene the organizational meeting of the board, during which the board shall elect a chair and vice chair from among its members. Thereafter, every three years the board shall elect in open meeting a chair and vice chair from among its

members. The chair and vice chair shall serve no more than two consecutive three-year terms as chair and vice chair.

- L. A vacancy on the board shall be filled by appointment by the original appointing authority for the remainder of the member's unexpired term.
- M. A member may be removed from the board by a majority vote of the members. The board shall set standards for attendance and may remove a member for lack of attendance, neglect of duty or malfeasance in office. A member shall not be removed without proceedings consisting of at least one ten-day notice of hearing and an opportunity to be heard. Removal proceedings shall be before the board and in accordance with procedures adopted by the board.
- N. Appointed members may receive per diem and mileage in accordance with the Per Diem and Mileage Act, subject to the travel policy set by the board. Appointed members shall receive no other compensation, perquisite or allowance.
- O. The board shall meet at the call of the chair and no less often than once per calendar quarter. There shall be at least seven days' notice given to members prior to any meeting. There shall be sufficient notice provided to the public prior to meetings consistent with the Open Meetings Act.
 - P. The board shall create, make appointments to

and duly consider recommendations of an advisory committee or committees made up of stakeholders, including carriers, health care consumers, health care providers, health care practitioners, brokers, qualified employer representatives and advocates for low-income or underserved residents.

Q. The board shall create an advisory committee made up of Native Americans, some of whom live on a reservation and some of whom do not live on a reservation, to guide the implementation of the Native-American-specific provisions of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the federal Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

SECTION 4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS--POWERS.--The board may:

- A. seek and receive grant funding from federal, state or local governments or private philanthropic organizations to defray the costs of operating the exchange;
- B. generate funding, including but not limited to, charging assessments or fees, to support its operations in accordance with provisions of the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act;
 - C. create ad hoc advisory councils;
- D. request assistance from other boards, commissions, departments, agencies and organizations as necessary to provide appropriate expertise to accomplish the exchange's duties;
 - E. enter into contracts with persons or other

- F. enter into contracts with similar exchanges of other states for the joint performance of common administrative functions:
- G. enter into information-sharing agreements with federal and state agencies and other state exchanges to carry out its responsibilities; provided that these agreements include adequate protections of the confidentiality of the information to be shared and comply with all state and federal laws and regulations;
- H. sue or be sued or otherwise take any necessary or proper legal action in the execution of its duties and powers;
- I. appoint board committees, which may include non-board members, to provide technical assistance in the operation of the exchange and any other function within the authority of the exchange; and
- J. conduct periodic audits to assure the general accuracy of the financial data submitted to the exchange.

1	eligibility requirements and procedures for enrollment in a
2	qualified health plan, Medicaid or other public health
3	coverage program and to maintain public awareness of the
4	exchange;
5	(5) establish consumer complaint and
6	grievance procedures for issues raised with the exchange;
7	(6) establish procedures for alternative
8	dispute resolution between the exchange and contractors or
9	carriers;
10	(7) establish conflict of interest policies
11	and procedures; and
12	(8) contain additional provisions necessary
13	and proper for the execution of the powers and duties of the
14	board.
15	SECTION 6. BOARD DUTIESREPORTINGThe board shall:
16	A. consult with representatives of New Mexico
17	Indian nations, tribes and pueblos and develop and implement
18	policies that:
19	(1) promote effective communication and
20	collaboration between the exchange and Indian nations, tribes
21	and pueblos, including communicating and collaborating on
22	those nations', tribes' and pueblos' plans for creating or
23	participating in health insurance exchanges; and
24	(2) promote cultural competency in providing

effective services to Native Americans;

B. designate a Native American liaison, who shall assist the executive director of the exchange in developing and ensuring implementation of communication and collaboration between the exchange and Native Americans in the state. The tribal liaison shall serve as a contact person between the exchange and New Mexico Indian nations, tribes and pueblos and shall ensure that training is provided to the staff of the exchange;

C. between July 1, 2011 and January 1, 2014 provide quarterly reports to the legislature, the governor and the superintendent on the implementation of the exchange and report annually and upon request thereafter;

D. by July 1, 2013:

(1) report findings and submit recommendations to the legislative health and human services committee, the legislative finance committee and the superintendent on how to avoid adverse selection and how to assess and improve the quality and affordability of qualified health plans that will be offered on the exchange; and

(2) provide legislative recommendations to the legislative health and human services committee and the legislative finance committee on whether to change the number of full-time-equivalent employees in the definition of "small employer" from fifty to one hundred before January 1, 2016. The board shall recommend a transition plan for the exchange

and carriers to follow when changing the definition of "small employer", whether the change occurs prior to or on January 1, 2016;

- E. by July 1, 2013 provide recommendations to the legislative finance committee and other appropriate interim legislative committees on mechanisms for funding the operations of the exchange and a plan for achieving self-sufficiency, including the use of any assessments or fees;
- F. by July 1, 2016, provide legislative recommendations to the legislative health and human services committee and the legislative finance committee on whether to:
- (1) continue limiting qualified employer status to small employers and, if qualified employer status is extended to large employers, whether to combine the large employer risk pool with the small group market;
- (2) combine the individual, small group and the large employer markets into a single risk pool; and
- (3) enter into an exchange with other states or share resources or responsibilities to enhance the affordability of operating the exchange;
- G. keep an accurate accounting of all of the activities, receipts and expenditures of the exchange and submit this information annually to the superintendent and as

required by federal law to the federal secretary of health and human services;

- H. beginning with the first year of operation in which access to health insurance coverage is provided, obtain an annual audit of the exchange's operations from an independent certified public accountant;
- I. cooperate with the medical assistance division of the human services department, or its successor in interest, to share information and facilitate transitions in enrollment between the exchange and medicaid, the state children's health insurance program or any other state public health coverage program;
- J. publish the administrative costs of the exchange as required by state or federal law; and
- K. discharge those duties required to implement and operate the exchange in accordance with the provisions of the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act consistent with state and federal law.

SECTION 7. RULES--DISPUTE RESOLUTION.--

- A. The superintendent shall promulgate rules necessary to implement and carry out the provisions of the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act.
- B. The superintendent shall promulgate rules for resolving disputes arising from the operation of the exchange in accordance with the provisions of the New Mexico Health

- (1) the eligibility of an individual, employer or carrier to participate in the exchange;
- (2) receiving an exemption from any state or federal individual requirement to retain minimum essential coverage; and
- (3) the exchange's collection and transmission to the applicable qualified health plans any applications for enrollment and all premium payments or contributions made by or on behalf of qualified individuals or qualified employers participating in the exchange.
- SECTION 8. EXEMPTION.--The exchange is exempt from payment of all fees and all taxes levied by this state or any of its political subdivisions.

SECTION 9. FUNDING. --

- A. To fund the planning, implementation and operation of the exchange, the board shall contract with the human services department or any other state agency that receives federal funds allocated, appropriated or granted to the state for purposes of funding the planning, implementation or operation of a health insurance exchange.
- B. The human services department or any other state agency that receives federal funds allocated, appropriated or granted to the state for purposes of funding the planning, implementation or operation of a health

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insurance exchange shall contract with the board to provide those funds to the exchange in consideration for its planning, implementation or operation.

SECTION 10. COOPERATION WITH THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE.--The medical assistance division of the human services department, or its successor in interest, shall cooperate with the New Mexico health insurance exchange to share information and facilitate transitions in enrollment between the exchange and medicaid, the state children's health insurance program or any other state public health coverage program.

SECTION 11. A new section of the New Mexico Insurance Code is enacted to read:

"INSURANCE DIVISION--COOPERATION WITH NEW MEXICO HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE.--The insurance division, or its successor in interest, shall cooperate with the New Mexico health insurance exchange to share information and assist in the implementation of the functions of the exchange."

SECTION 12. Section 41-4-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1976, Chapter 58, Section 3, as amended by Laws 2009, Chapter 8, Section 2 and by Laws 2009, Chapter 129, Section 2 and also by Laws 2009, Chapter 249, Section 2) is amended to read:

"41-4-3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Tort Claims Act:

A. "board" means the risk management advisory board;

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- B. "governmental entity" means the state or any local public body as defined in Subsections C and H of this section;
- C. "local public body" means all political subdivisions of the state and their agencies, instrumentalities and institutions and all water and natural gas associations organized pursuant to Chapter 3, Article 28 NMSA 1978;
- D. "law enforcement officer" means a full-time salaried public employee of a governmental entity, or a certified part-time salaried police officer employed by a governmental entity, whose principal duties under law are to hold in custody any person accused of a criminal offense, to maintain public order or to make arrests for crimes, or members of the national guard when called to active duty by the governor;
 - E. "maintenance" does not include:
- (1) conduct involved in the issuance of a permit, driver's license or other official authorization to use the roads or highways of the state in a particular manner; or
- (2) an activity or event relating to a public building or public housing project that was not foreseeable;
 - F. "public employee" means an officer, employee or $\frac{SCORC/SB}{Page}$ 38 & 370

1	servant of a governmental entity, excluding independent
2	contractors except for individuals defined in Paragraphs (7),
3	(8), (10), (14) and (17) of this subsection, or of a
4	corporation organized pursuant to the Educational Assistance
5	Act, the Small Business Investment Act or the Mortgage
6	Finance Authority Act or a licensed health care provider, who
7	has no medical liability insurance, providing voluntary
8	services as defined in Paragraph (16) of this subsection and
9	including:
10	(l) elected or appointed officials;
11	(2) law enforcement officers;

- (3) persons acting on behalf or in service of a governmental entity in any official capacity, whether with or without compensation;

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- (4) licensed foster parents providing care for children in the custody of the human services department, corrections department or department of health, but not including foster parents certified by a licensed child placement agency;
- members of state or local selection panels established pursuant to the Adult Community Corrections Act;
- (6) members of state or local selection panels established pursuant to the Juvenile Community Corrections Act;

1	(7) licensed medical, psychological or
2	dental arts practitioners providing services to the
3	corrections department pursuant to contract;
4	(8) members of the board of directors of the
5	New Mexico medical insurance pool;
6	(9) individuals who are members of medical
7	review boards, committees or panels established by the
8	educational retirement board or the retirement board of the
9	public employees retirement association;
10	(10) licensed medical, psychological or
11	dental arts practitioners providing services to the children,
12	youth and families department pursuant to contract;
13	(11) members of the board of directors of
14	the New Mexico educational assistance foundation;
15	(12) members of the board of directors of
16	the New Mexico student loan guarantee corporation;
17	(13) members of the New Mexico mortgage
18	finance authority;
19	(14) volunteers, employees and board members
20	of court-appointed special advocate programs;
21	(15) members of the board of directors of
22	the New Mexico small business investment corporation;
23	(16) health care providers licensed in
24	New Mexico who render voluntary health care services without
25	compensation in accordance with rules promulgated by the SCORC/SB 38 & 370 Page 22

New Mexico health insurance exchange may be provided to the

insurance alliance or the New Mexico medical insurance pool

New Mexico health insurance exchange by the New Mexico health

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through a cooperative agreement between the New Mexico health insurance exchange and the respective board. The New Mexico health insurance alliance and the New Mexico medical insurance pool may fund reasonably required staff and other operating expenses for the New Mexico health insurance exchange through their respective existing funding mechanisms. To the extent federal funding is available to the New Mexico health insurance exchange, the New Mexico health insurance exchange shall reimburse the New Mexico health insurance alliance and the New Mexico medical insurance pool, respectively, for such resources as each may provide.

- B. The board of directors of the New Mexico health insurance exchange shall meet with the boards of directors of the New Mexico health insurance alliance and the New Mexico medical insurance pool to:
- (1) develop a plan to provide portability of coverage for individuals covered through the New Mexico health insurance alliance and the New Mexico medical insurance pool to the extent possible through the New Mexico health insurance exchange; and
- (2) prepare a report to the first session of the fifty-first legislature on recommendations for transition of functions of the New Mexico health insurance alliance and New Mexico medical insurance pool to the New Mexico health

1	insurance exchange and on any recommendations for continued	
2	and expanded health coverage of the state's residents.	
3	SECTION 14. SEVERABILITYIf any part or application	
4	of this act is held invalid, the remainder or its application	
5	to other situations or persons shall not be affected SCORC/SB 38 8	& 37
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