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HOUSE BILL 338

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

EDWARD C. SANDOVAL

FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE REFORM COMMITTEE

AN ACT

CREATING THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH CARE TASK FORCE; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Section 1. HEALTH CARE TASK FORCE CREATED--

TERMINATION.--There is created a joint interim legislative
task force that shall be known as the "health care task
force". The task force shall function from the date of its
appointment until December 1 prior to the first session of the
forty-fourth legislature.

Section 2. MEMBERSHIP--APPOINTMENT--VACANCIES.--

A. The health care task force shall be composed of
twelve voting legislative members and ten voting
nonlegislative members. The speaker of the house of
representatives shall appoint six members of the house of

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1 representatives, one of whom shall be the chairman or vice
2 chairman of the legislative health and human services
3 committee, and the president pro tempore of the senate shall
4 appoint six members of the senate, one of whom shall be the
5 chairman or vice chairman of the legislative health and human
6 services committee. The speaker of the house of
7 representatives and the president pro tempore of the senate
8 shall designate the chairman and vice chairman of the task
9 force.

10 B. Members of the health care task force shall be
11 appointed from each house to give the two major political
12 parties in each house the same proportional representation on
13 the task force as prevails in each house; however, in no event
14 shall either party have less than one member from each house
15 on the task force. Vacancies on the task force shall be
16 filled by appointment in the same manner as the original
17 appointments.

18 C. No action shall be taken by the health care
19 task force if a majority of the total membership from either
20 house on the health care task force rejects the action.

21 D. The nonlegislative members of the health care
22 task force who do not serve ex officio shall be appointed by
23 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president
24 pro tempore of the senate as follows:

- 25 (1) two public members representing the

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1 business community, one representing small employers and one
2 representing large employers;

3 (2) a public member who is an attorney with
4 expertise in the area of health care;

5 (3) a health care reform advocate; and

6 (4) two members of a Native American nation,
7 tribe or pueblo of this state.

8 E. The additional nonlegislative members shall be:

9 (1) the secretary of human services or the
10 secretary's designee;

11 (2) the secretary of health or the
12 secretary's designee;

13 (3) a representative of the New Mexico health
14 policy commission; and

15 (4) the superintendent of insurance or the
16 superintendent's designee.

17 F. The public members shall be paid per diem and
18 mileage in accordance with the provisions of the Per Diem and
19 Mileage Act.

20 Section 3. DUTIES. --After the health care task force
21 members are appointed, the task force shall hold one
22 organizational meeting to develop a work plan and budget for
23 the ensuing interim. The work plan and budget shall be
24 submitted to the legislative council for approval. Upon
25 approval of the work plan and budget by the legislative

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1 council, the task force shall review health care reform
2 issues, including making efforts to:

3 A. facilitate an ongoing partnership between the
4 legislative and executive branches and bring together various
5 groups working on health care reforms to:

6 (1) improve the health status of New
7 Mexicans;

8 (2) enhance access to medical services with a
9 commitment to protecting vulnerable populations;

10 (3) strengthen the currently existing local
11 health care infrastructure, both private and public, to ensure
12 appropriate access to needed services;

13 (4) protect the quality of health care from
14 erosion for cost savings; and

15 (5) improve the efficiency of health care
16 delivery;

17 B. consider and investigate the supply and
18 distribution of the state's health professional work force to
19 determine what providers and infrastructure are necessary for
20 health care delivery, including the development of priorities
21 for geographic access of health care service in the state to
22 revise the composition of health professionals to meet the
23 health care service needs of the state;

24 C. investigate legal, regulatory and policy issues
25 affecting health care services in the state, including managed

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1 care in general, the medicaid managed care program and the
2 state children's health insurance program in particular;

3 D. oversee developments to the health information
4 system, including the efforts of the health information
5 alliance, the initiation of confidential health information
6 and patient privacy legislation and consumer report cards;

7 E. investigate the role of the university of New
8 Mexico health sciences center regarding its service mission as
9 a vital education institution in the state and its role in
10 filling the gaps of health care service where the private
11 sector is unable to deliver service;

12 F. create and sustain an ongoing dialogue with
13 representatives from New Mexico Indian nations, tribes and
14 pueblos to discuss health care issues related to Native
15 American people, the role of the Indian health service as a
16 provider of health care services and the integration of the
17 medicaid managed care program and the state children's health
18 insurance program with the Indian health service and Indian
19 communities;

20 G. provide legislative oversight of the
21 implementation of health care reform measures, health care
22 delivery and payment proposals and changes in federal and
23 state law that impact health care reform programs that become
24 law; and

25 H. recommend legislation or changes, if any are

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1 found to be necessary, to the first session of the forty-
2 fourth legislature.

3 Section 4. SUBCOMMITTEES. -- Subcommittees shall be
4 created only by majority vote of all members appointed to the
5 health care task force and with the prior approval of the
6 legislative council. A subcommittee shall be composed of at
7 least one member from the senate and one member from the house
8 of representatives, and at least one member of the minority
9 party shall be a member of the subcommittee. Any meeting or
10 expenditure of a subcommittee shall be approved by the full
11 task force in advance of that meeting or expenditure, and the
12 approval shall be shown in the minutes of the task force.

13 Section 5. REPORT. -- The health care task force shall
14 make a report of its findings and recommendations for the
15 consideration of the first session of the forty-fourth
16 legislature. The reports and suggested legislation shall be
17 made available to the legislative council, the legislative
18 finance committee, the legislative health and human services
19 committee, the New Mexico health policy commission and the
20 governor on or before November 30 preceding each session.

21 Section 6. STAFF. -- The staff for the health care task
22 force shall be provided by the legislative council service,
23 and the staff of the New Mexico health policy commission shall
24 assist the health care task force as requested. The
25 legislative council service at the direction of the task force

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1 may hire additional staff as necessary and may contract with
2 experts, including economists, actuaries and the bureau of
3 business and economic research at the university of New
4 Mexico, to assist the task force in carrying out its work.

5 Section 7. APPROPRIATION. --For the purpose of paying the
6 salaries and expenses of the technical, professional, legal,
7 clerical and stenographic assistants; for necessary equipment
8 and supplies used in carrying out the provisions of this act;
9 for travel expenses for staff and task force members; and for
10 reimbursing the per diem and mileage expenses of the health
11 care task force, there is appropriated to the legislative
12 council service from the general fund the sum of one hundred
13 thousand dollars (\$100,000) for expenditure in fiscal year
14 1999. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the
15 end of fiscal year 1999 shall revert to the general fund.
16 Payments from the appropriation shall be made on vouchers
17 signed by the director of the legislative council service or
18 the director's authorized representative.

19 Section 8. EMERGENCY. --It is necessary for the public
20 peace, health and safety that this act take effect
21 immediately.

1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
2 SECOND SESSION, 1998
3
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5 February 5, 1998
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7 Mr. Speaker:
8

9 Your CONSUMER AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to
10 whom has been referred
11

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14 has had it under consideration and reports same with
15 recommendation that it DO PASS, and thence referred to the
16 APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.
17

18 Respectfully submitted,
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21 _____
22 Gary K. King, Chairman
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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

3 HCPAC/HB 338

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4 Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

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6 (Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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8 Date _____

9
10 The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

11 Yes: 10

12 Excused: None

13 Absent: None

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