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OVERVIEW
The 2012-2014 Biennium in Brief

During the course of the 2012-2014 biennium, the legislature convened for two regular sessions, and legislators served on 59 interim committees, subcommittees, task forces and other working bodies.

Interims

As the legislature adjourned its 2013 regular session, the interim ahead promised to be relatively drama-free. Legislators faced none of the major issues that had dominated the previous three interims — no solvency cliffs to avoid, no elections, no redistricting and no imminent changes in leadership. But a few weeks into the interim, the most sacred of legislative cows was gored when the governor issued an executive order withholding funds from various capital outlay projects statewide. So much for the calm that might have been.

In her executive order, the governor cited late or incomplete audits as reason enough to delay disbursement of capital outlay funds to certain governmental entities. While some applauded the governor for taking a stand for government accountability, others felt she had usurped the legislature's appropriating authority by unilaterally imposing a restriction on funding after the capital outlay bill was signed into law. A group of legislators requested an attorney general opinion, which, when it was finally issued late in the interim and found that the governor lacked authority for her action, did nothing to free up the delayed capital outlay funding. In the months that it took for the attorney general to consider the matter, many of the governmental entities whose audits were incomplete managed to bring themselves into compliance, and their capital outlay funding was restored. Some entities, however, lacked the resources to bring their books into compliance, leading some interim committees to consider ways the state auditor might provide local government audit assistance to prevent future interruptions in capital outlay disbursements.

As if the capital outlay situation were not controversy enough for one interim, the Human Services Department (HSD), in early summer, made credible allegation of fraud determinations against 15 behavioral health service providers in the state. Again, the attorney general was called in, this time to conduct a criminal investigation. When the HSD not only halted payments to the providers under investigation but also contracted with agencies from Arizona to replace them, the Behavioral Health Subcommittee revised its plans for the interim and devoted hours to testimony on the controversy. The interim ended without resolution on the topic — the attorney general investigation was still under way, and litigation brought by various affected parties was still pending.

While no additional interim legislative bodies were created to address the capital outlay and behavioral health uproars, four new single-topic bodies were created during the 2013 interim to address other pressing issues. With much of the Southwest caught in an extended drought, the New Mexico Legislative Council created the Drought Subcommittee of the Water and Natural Resources Committee to assess the impact of the state's water shortages, including how the drought affects New Mexico's
obligations under the Rio Grande Compact and the Pecos River Compact. A memorial passed during the 2013 session spurred creation of the Legislative Council's Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee, which was charged with identifying current and potential revenue sources for improving the state's deteriorating transportation infrastructure. The Jobs Council, which has both public and private members, was created to address the challenge of job creation as the state slowly recovers from the recent recession. And in a rare move, the Legislative Council created a body with bipartisan co-chairs — the Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee of the Courts, Corrections and Criminal Justice Committee — to focus on successful criminal justice reform efforts in other states that might be replicated in New Mexico. In addition to these interim bodies, legislators served on more than 20 other committees, task forces and work groups.

The 2014 interim was no less dramatic than its predecessor, bookended as it was by two high-profile accidents that garnered not only significant committee attention but international media attention as well.

Just days before the interim began, a storage container shipped from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) near Carlsbad leaked radiation, exposing nearly two dozen employees and prompting an immediate closure of the underground nuclear waste repository. The Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee heard extensive testimony on the matter in the following months as the federal Department of Energy closed the facility indefinitely and the state's Department of Environment levied $54 million in fines against LANL.

As the interim was winding to a close, a Virgin Galactic spacecraft crashed during its initial test flight, killing one of two pilots aboard. Though the crash did not take place in New Mexico, it cast a sudden chill on New Mexico's nascent space tourism industry, as Virgin Galactic had been a driving force behind development of Spaceport America in Sierra County and is the spaceport's most prominent tenant. Shortly before the crash, the New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA) Oversight Committee devoted an entire day of hearings to spaceport issues, plans and budget needs, as well as the positive economic impact that space tourism was projected to have on the south central region of the state.

Some prominent issues discussed in 2013 carried over into 2014. Discussions in the Committee on Compacts that began during the 2013 session regarding Navajo Nation gaming compact amendments continued through the following interim and into the 2014 session, when the amendments died in the senate. Four other tribes negotiated to amend their gaming compacts, including the Pueblo of Pojoaque, though its negotiations eventually broke down and legal proceedings ensued. Ongoing concern about a decades-old fuel spill at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque prompted status updates on monitoring and cleanup efforts before three committees. The Behavioral Health Subcommittee heard ongoing testimony on the effects of the HSD's 2013 actions against behavioral health services providers, with affected parties offering a perspective at odds with the HSD's assertion that services had not been disrupted or reduced. A 2013 lawsuit brought by the City of Eunice against the Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD) over "take backs" of erroneous local option gross receipts tax (GRT) distributions
became a topic for review by the Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee when the suit progressed in 2014 to the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court.

The Drought Subcommittee was not renewed for 2014, but the Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee, the Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee and the Jobs Council were. All told, the 2014 interim saw legislators busy meeting around the state and beyond with more than two dozen working groups of various kinds.

**Sessions**

New faces abounded in both chambers as the First Session of the Fifty-First Legislature convened with the largest freshman class since 1985 and a nearly complete turnover in legislative leadership — 31 brand-new members and a new speaker of the house; a new senate president pro tempore; new house majority and minority floor leaders; and three new whips.

The issues facing the legislature, however, were familiar and are the foundation of policymaking: consideration of a state budget in the face of only slightly improved state revenue; last-minute (literally) approval of a compromise tax package; establishment of a health insurance exchange, as mandated by federal law; enactment of implementing legislation for voter-approved constitutional amendments; and reforms to the public employee pension systems.

For the second year in a row, development of the state's budget — the legislature's primary job — was not as painful as it had been during the 2009, 2010 and 2011 sessions. The fiscal year (FY) 2014 budget was approximately $5.9 billion — just about the same amount approved by the legislature before the recent recession and about 4.4% over the FY 2013 budget.

After all-day and all-night discussions among legislators and the executive, the legislature approved a tax package in the waning moments of the session that was cobbled together from bills heard prior to and during the session. The bill lowered corporate income tax rates and offered incentives for television producers and for manufacturers. Additionally, the legislation was designed to ensure that "big-box" stores pay their fair share of New Mexico taxes and that companies claiming the high-wage jobs tax credit are, in fact, entitled to it. Controversy about the actual fiscal impact of the tax package and the manner in which it was approved lingered after the session adjourned.

As in past sessions, the legislature considered and rejected several high-profile controversial issues, including proposals to stop issuing driver's licenses to people who are in the country illegally; to end the "social promotion" of third grade students who are struggling to read; and to require background checks of people buying guns at gun shows. And, despite approximately 10 hours of hearings, the Senate Rules Committee did not vote on whether to recommend that the senate confirm the governor's nominee for secretary of public education.

In each legislative session, a scant handful of the hundreds of bills, memorials and resolutions that are introduced tend to cast a shadow over the session. The issues raised by that legislation are usually high-profile, headline-stealing issues that may define the session for years to come. The 2014
session was something of an exception, with discussions in the Roundhouse dominated not by high-profile bills, but rather, by the obscure but important method of precisely how public schools are funded — specifically, how much money is appropriated "above the line" versus "below the line".

Before the session opened, it appeared as though the legislature and governor were reasonably close in their budget recommendations, but it was equally apparent that they were miles apart on the critical issue of how much education funding should flow through the funding formula, or "above the line", and how much should be available to individual school districts, or "below the line".

Another shadow soon emerged: the prospect that two Democratic members of the house of representatives would not attend the session because of illness. This made the margin in an already closely divided house of representatives razor thin, and it would become a factor in the education funding debate and in several debates on other issues.

The primary task each 30-day session is to craft a state budget. Traditionally, the budget begins as House Bill 2, and 2014 was no different in that respect. However, largely because of the inability to reach an agreement on above- and below-the-line funding for education, and with the absence of the two excused house members, the budget proposal failed to pass the house on a 34-34 tie vote.

As time wound down in the session, the senate developed and unanimously passed a compromise budget proposal, which received overwhelming support in the house. The $6.1 billion budget represented an increase of slightly more than four percent over FY 2014 appropriations and featured modest increases in public school funding and higher education funding, as well as salary adjustments for many, but not all, state employees. The governor signed the budget after using her line-item veto power to trim $27 million from the bill.

Another issue presenting itself before the 2014 session was the likelihood that the Lottery Tuition Fund would run out of money if the legislature did not address the fact that the popular program has been spending more money than it has been taking in. Various approaches were discussed before a late-session compromise was passed. The short-term compromise involved shoring up the fund with general fund and liquor excise tax money, while slightly increasing eligibility standards for students, as a more permanent solution is developed.

In the end, the legislature passed and sent 91 bills to the governor; she vetoed 10 of them. In addition to the nearly 700 bills that were introduced, there was a slight increase in the number of proposed constitutional amendments introduced. The proposed amendments covered topics that included increased qualifications for the secretary of public education, legalization of marijuana and increasing the state minimum wage. Some members expressed concern that the increase in the number of proposed constitutional amendments was simply a means of avoiding a gubernatorial veto, but in the end, none of the more controversial proposals passed the legislature.

A number of other high-profile issues were considered by the legislature but, also, failed to pass. Among them was a new gaming compact for the Navajo Nation that would have allowed the nation to operate up to five casinos. The compact passed the house but died in the senate. A long-awaited vote
on the nomination of the secretary of public education stalled in the Senate Rules Committee on a tie vote. Also, a proposal to spend some of the money from the land grant permanent funds for early childhood programs died in committee, as it had in the past.
THE
NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
The New Mexico Legislative Council
2013, 2014

The New Mexico Legislative Council is a 16-member permanent joint interim committee of the legislature. Its primary function is to serve as an interim board of directors for the legislature. It also directs general operations of the Legislative Council Service (LCS).
As a matter of policy, all members of the legislature serve as advisory members of the council. They are invited to all meetings of the council and, upon request, are furnished a copy of the minutes after approval.

The law concerning the council reads as follows:

2-3-1. NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CREATED.--There is created a legislative joint committee of the house and senate to be designated "the New Mexico legislative council", composed of sixteen members, eight from the house and eight from the senate. The president pro tempore and the minority floor leader of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives and the minority floor leader of the house shall automatically be members of the council. Six of the remaining members shall be appointed from the house of representatives by the speaker; provided that, if the minority is entitled to more than one member, the additional minority members shall be appointed by the speaker only from recommendations made by the minority floor leader, although the speaker shall retain the right to reject any such recommendations; and six of the remaining members shall be appointed from the senate by the committees' committee or, if the appointments are made in the interim, by the president pro tempore after consultation with and agreement of a majority of the members of the committees' committee. If the minority is entitled to more than one member, one of the remaining six members shall be appointed by the senate minority floor leader. The appointed members of the council shall be appointed from each house so as to give the two political parties having the most members in each house the same total proportionate representation on the council as prevails in that house; providing that in the computation, major fractions shall be counted as whole numbers, and in no event shall either of the two major parties have less than one member from each house. The members shall be appointed for terms of two years or less expiring on the first day of the regular session held in odd-numbered years. The term of any member shall terminate when such member ceases to be a member of the legislature. Provided, however, that members of the council reelected to the legislature shall continue to serve as members of the council until their successors are appointed. Vacancies on the council may be filled for the unexpired term by appointment from the house or senate respectively by the respective appointing authority which makes the original appointments and subject to the same recommendations; provided such new members must be from the same body of the legislature and the same party from which their predecessors were appointed. The council shall elect such other officers as may be deemed necessary from among its own members. The officers shall be elected for terms coterminous with their membership on the council. The speaker and the president pro tempore shall be co-chairmen of the council. No action shall be taken by
the council if a majority of the total membership from either house on the council rejects such action. This 1978 amendment shall not be construed to cut short the term of any member already appointed to the council.

**Historical Background**

As originally constituted in 1951, the New Mexico Legislative Council was a standing committee of the legislature and was composed of nine members. The lieutenant governor, as president of the senate, and the speaker of the house of representatives were automatic members. The remaining seven members — three from the senate and four from the house — were appointed by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house. Not more than two members appointed from each chamber could belong to the same political party. Senate members served for four years and house members for two years.

In 1955, the membership of the council was increased to 13, providing for two additional members from each chamber. The 1955 amendment also revised the bipartisan requirement to give political parties the same proportionate representation on the council that prevailed in each chamber.

The council was made a permanent joint interim committee in 1957. The lieutenant governor was removed as a member and replaced by the president pro tempore of the senate. The appointing authority was changed to conform with the rules by which standing committees of the respective chambers are appointed. The terms of all members were set at two years.

In 1978, the membership was increased to 16 members, providing equal representation from each chamber, and procedures were established for selection of minority members. Changes in voting procedures were also made whereby no action could be taken by the council if a majority of the total membership from either chamber rejected the action.

**Duties**

The duties of the New Mexico Legislative Council range in scope from directing the staff of the LCS to exercising the exclusive control of the buildings and grounds of the State Capitol and state library.

Specifically, the duties of the New Mexico Legislative Council set out in statute are as follows:

2-3-3. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL--POWERS--DUTIES.--It shall be the duty of the legislative council:

A. to adopt rules and regulations for the administration of this act in the conduct of the affairs of the council service;

B. to formulate policies for the operation and conduct of the business of the council service, and generally to supervise all of the activities of such council service;

C. to carry out the purposes of the council service as hereafter set forth;
D. to create committees of legislators to study major problems during the periods when the legislature is not in session; provided that:

(1) no member of the council shall serve as an officer or voting member on an interim committee appointed or created by the council;

(2) all committees created by the council shall terminate on or before December 1 of the year in which they are created, unless the council subsequently extends the life of the committee for not more than one month;

(3) the minority party shall be represented on all council-created committees in the proportion the minority party is represented in each house;

(4) the relationship of the size of the house and senate shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of members from each house appointed to an interim committee created by the council; and

(5) members shall be appointed to council-created committees by the same appointing authorities that appointed the council members from each house, and subject to the same recommendations. The council shall name committee officers from among the committee members so appointed;

E. to adopt rules of procedure for all committees created by the council, including a rule that no action shall be taken by the committee if a majority of the total membership from either house on the committee rejects such action; provided that no member of the legislature shall ever be excluded from any meeting of any committee appointed by the council; and

F. to refrain from advocating or opposing the introduction or passage of legislation.

2-3-4. CONTROL OF BUILDING HOUSING LEGISLATURE, ADJACENT UTILITY PLANT AND SURROUNDING GROUNDS.--Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 6, Articles 1 and 2, NMSA 1953, the exclusive control, care, custody and maintenance of the building in which the legislature is housed, the adjacent utilities plant and the surrounding grounds are transferred from the capitol buildings improvement commission, and the capitol custodian commission, to the legislative council.

In addition, the members of the New Mexico Legislative Council serve as ex-officio members of the Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation. The duties of the commission are set out in Section 11-2-2 NMSA 1978 as follows:

A. to carry forward the participation of this state as a member of the council of state governments;
B. to encourage and assist the legislative, executive, administrative and judicial officials and employees of this state to develop and maintain friendly contact by correspondence, by conference and otherwise, with officials and employees of the other states, of the federal government and of local units of government;

C. to endeavor to advance cooperation between this state and other units of government whenever it seems advisable to do so by formulating proposals for, and by facilitating:
   (1) the adoption of compacts;
   (2) the enactment of uniform or reciprocal statutes;
   (3) the adoption of uniform or reciprocal administrative rules and regulations;
   (4) the informal cooperation of governmental offices with one another;
   (5) the personal cooperation of governmental officials and employees with one another, individually;
   (6) the interchange and clearance of research and information; and
   (7) any other suitable process;

D. in short, to do all such acts as will, in the opinion of this commission, enable this state to do its part or more than its part in forming a more perfect union among the various governments in the United States and in developing the council of state governments for that purpose.

**Policy Change**

At its September 25, 2012 meeting, the New Mexico Legislative Council amended Policy 13 as follows (deleted text in bracketed italic, new text underscored):

13. LEGISLATIVE SPACE.--During periods when the legislature is not in session, the legislative chambers and auxiliary rooms on the first level will be reserved strictly for legislative use [with the exception] except that the chambers [and ancillary room, other than the house and senate lounges and offices of the legislative leaders] may be used with the permission of the legislative council for occasional educational purposes [where the purpose is] to teach students about legislative-governmental procedures. [Student] Use of chambers will be restricted by the prohibition of food and drinks [in the carpeted areas] and by restricting any activity [which] that might [tend to] harm the furniture or the building.

No other use of the legislative chambers or auxiliary rooms is permitted without...
the approval of the legislative council.

Committee rooms of the legislature shall be reserved for legislative use and, at any time when not used for legislative purposes, may be used [by governmental agencies and institutions] for occasional meetings [by] with the permission [from] of the legislative council service. The director may not loan legislative furniture to other agencies without prior approval of the council at a regularly called meeting.

Generally, no fee shall be assessed for the use of legislative chambers, committee rooms, the rotunda or other areas of the capitol and capitol north if the use is limited to the hours when the capitol and capitol north are open to the public. If the use is authorized outside of these times, or if significant additional legislative building services resources are required during regular hours, the director of the legislative council service may assess a fee not to exceed the actual costs of providing those resources.

Offices of officers and members of the legislature will be reserved for their use when in Santa Fe except when the legislative council approves the use for interim committee offices or for use [under Laws 1969, Chapter 116] pursuant to Sections 8-2-1 and 8-2-2 NMSA 1978 and after notification of the member whose office is so used.
PERMANENT INTERIM COMMITTEES
The Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) was originally created in 1965, and members are appointed pursuant to the statutory authority contained in Section 2-10-1 NMSA 1978. The LESC conducts a continuing study of all education in New Mexico, the laws governing such education and the policies and costs of the New Mexico educational system. For the 2014 interim, the LESC formed the Charter Schools Subcommittee to focus specifically on charter school issues, with
staff provided by the LESC, the LCS and the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC).

As a permanent interim committee, the LESC publishes a separate report of its work, findings and recommendations.

### Legislative Finance Committee

#### 2013, 2014

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<th>LFC Membership 2013</th>
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<td><strong>Voting</strong></td>
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<td>Rep. Luciano &quot;Lucky&quot; Varela, Chair, Santa Fe</td>
<td>Rep. Luciano &quot;Lucky&quot; Varela, Chair, Santa Fe</td>
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<td>Sen. John Arthur Smith, Vice Chair, Deming</td>
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<td>Sen. Sue Wilson Beffort, Sandia Park</td>
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<td>Sen. Pete Campos, Las Vegas</td>
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<td>Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros, Questa</td>
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<td>Sen. Howie C. Morales, Silver City</td>
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<td>Sen. Steven P. Neville, Aztec</td>
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<th><strong>Designees</strong></th>
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<td>Sen. Phil A. Griego, San Jose</td>
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<td>Sen. Stuart Ingle, Portales</td>
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<td>Rep. Rodolfo &quot;Rudy&quot; S. Martinez, Bayard</td>
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<td>Sen. Mary Kay Papen, Las Cruces</td>
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<td>Sen. Clemente Sanchez, Grants</td>
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<td>Sen. Peter Wirth, Santa Fe</td>
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The LFC was established as a fiscal and management arm of the legislature in 1957. The committee makes budgetary recommendations to the legislature for funding state government, higher education and public schools. The committee also prepares legislation addressing financial and management issues of state government. The LFC conducts public hearings, usually once a month during the interim, to consider its budget recommendations and to pursue current finance and management issues of state government.

As a permanent interim committee, the LFC publishes a separate report of its work.
STATUTORY AND NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL-CREATED INTERIM COMMITTEES
The Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee (CCJ) was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on April 30, 2013 and again on May 5, 2014.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to address the following general topics, including but not limited to the bulleted items, and, if necessary, recommend appropriate legislation:

(1) corrections issues:
   - use of solitary confinement in New Mexico prisons and jails;
   - federal Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 compliance;
♦ tax status of private prison companies;
♦ cost-benefit analysis approaches, such as the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative; New Mexico Results First model; the cost of the criminal justice system; alternative response to abuse and neglect cases; and LFC program evaluations;
♦ examination of issues surrounding illegal drugs and the criminal justice system;
♦ incarcerated women, including health services for imprisoned women, especially for pregnancy, and services for women and trauma;
♦ prison overcrowding and more effective use of prisons, including the use of county prisons by the state; and
♦ updates from the New Mexico Sentencing Commission and consideration of augmentation of the commission's budget;

(2) county jail issues:
♦ the New Mexico Association of Counties, including a presentation on what reforms county jails are implementing and an update on mental health issues and law enforcement/detention centers;
♦ authority of county jail administrators to conduct classifications of inmates; and
♦ overview of county misdemeanor compliance programs;

(3) juvenile justice issues:
♦ examination of issues surrounding juvenile justice, including whether there is a need for changes to the Children's Code;

(4) civil rights issues:
♦ background checks for firearm purchases;
♦ police shootings and possible legislative responses; and
♦ prisoner rights in the state's penal system;

(5) restorative justice, restitution and bullying:
♦ examination of possible legislative responses to bullying;
♦ restorative justice — increase in funding; and
♦ payments of restitution after a crime;

(6) courts and litigation issues:
♦ statutory fixes to requirements for liens;
♦ discussion of the appeals process in civil cases and examination of whether there is a need for reforms or streamlining;
♦ school boards and resolution of small-dollar litigation;
♦ update from the judiciary and the Administrative Office of the Courts; and
issues surrounding the reliability and use of eyewitness identification;

(7) probation and parole issues:
♦ discussion of whether there is a need for restructuring or changing the probation and parole system in New Mexico; and
♦ discussion of indeterminate periods of parole for people convicted of sex offenses;

(8) tribal issues:
♦ discussion of tribal jurisdiction and awarding of full faith and credit to judicial decisions; and
♦ cross-deputizing agreements between tribal and pueblo police forces and local law enforcement; and

(9) other courts, corrections and justice issues:
♦ voter registration and the Electronic Registration Information Center, a multistate registration database;
♦ termination of parental rights for a child conceived through rape (revisiting House Bill 38 and House Bill 508 of the 2013 session);
♦ discussion with the Office of the Attorney General concerning double jeopardy problems posed by the Forfeiture Act and similar laws;
♦ transition of the Public Defender Department to an independent agency;
♦ prostitution and human trafficking;
♦ alternative methods of handling security bonds;
♦ theft of merchandise shells and pallets;
♦ establishing a school of public health at the University of New Mexico (UNM), as related to public health issues in the committee's scope of work — specifically child abuse and neglect, addiction problems, etc.;
♦ the scope of practice in regulated professions; and
♦ the Texas water lawsuit against New Mexico filed in the U.S. Supreme Court.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to address the following and recommend appropriate legislation:

(1) continuing oversight of the work of the Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee;
(2) an examination of the intersection of criminal justice and behavioral health, including a joint session with the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee (LHHS);
(3) a presentation from the Office of the Attorney General;
(4) an update from the Public Defender Department and Public Defender Commission on their transition to an independent agency;
(5) an update from the New Mexico District Attorney's Association;
(6) reorganization and training at the Department of Public Safety;
(7) an update from the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD);

(8) an update from the Corrections Department, including an examination of issues surrounding the New Mexico Women's Correctional Facility and the revision of the policy concerning family visits;

(9) an update from the judiciary and the Administrative Office of the Courts, including discussion of the unified budget and the schedule of the judicial nominating process;

(10) an update from the staff of the LFC on the progress of the Results First program in criminal justice and child welfare;

(11) juvenile justice reform, including the use of restorative and reparative justice, and the establishment of a working group examining the school-to-prison pipeline;

(12) prostitution and human trafficking, including an update on the work on the recently formed human trafficking task force;

(13) Medicaid eligibility and enrollment for inmates ready to be released;

(14) the federal Department of Justice report on the Albuquerque Police Department — what legislative response might be required, including an examination of entrance and training requirements, civil rights violations and the Tort Claims Act;

(15) issues surrounding child support and child custody;

(16) the court system in New Mexico, including problems with court processes, the use of contract attorneys, court budgets and the use of specialty courts in New Mexico, including veterans' courts, homeless courts, mental health courts and drug courts;

(17) election matters, including state compliance with the federal National Voter Registration Act of 1993, known as the "Motor Voter Act", and the reporting of election returns;

(18) examination of the state's driving while intoxicated statutes;

(19) use of solitary confinement in New Mexico prisons and jails;

(20) examination of possible legislative responses to bullying in schools and in the workplace;

(21) federal Prison Rape Elimination Act compliance in New Mexico;

(22) an examination of laws and issues surrounding sexual assault, including a review of the processing of rape kits;

(23) issues surrounding consumer protection;

(24) a presentation from the UNM School of Law, including from the Utton Transboundary Resources Center and the Southwest Indian Law Clinic;

(25) an examination of the abuse and neglect system, including what legislative response might be required, whether additional or targeted funding is needed for the CYFD and how retention rates might be improved;

(26) a presentation and discussion of the current science of DNA as evidence in criminal prosecutions;
(27) a presentation and discussion on the reliability of eyewitness identification as evidence in criminal prosecutions; and
(28) an examination of recent changes made to the regulation of medical marijuana in New Mexico.

Economic and Rural Development Committee

2013, 2014

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<th>ERDC Membership 2013</th>
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<td><strong>Voting</strong></td>
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<td>Sen. Howie C. Morales, Chair, Silver City</td>
<td>Rep. Debbie A. Rodella, Chair, Española</td>
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<td>Rep. Debbie A. Rodella, Vice Chair, Española</td>
<td>Sen. Howie C. Morales, Vice Chair, Silver City</td>
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<td>Sen. Phil A. Griego, San Jose</td>
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<td>Sen. Craig W. Brandt, Rio Rancho</td>
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| **Staff**             | **Staff**             |
| Monica Ewing          | Monica Ewing          |
| Tessa Ryan            | Tessa Ryan            |
| Abigail Wohlb erg     | Carolyn Peck          |
| Branden Ibarra        | Mark Edwards          |
The Economic and Rural Development Committee was created for the current biennium by the New Mexico Legislative Council on April 30, 2013 and again on May 5, 2014.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to receive presentations on the following:

1. current programs, including the Frontier Communities Initiative, legislative priorities and proposed legislation of the Economic Development Department (EDD);
2. the EDD's report on tax credits and other incentives offered by the state and the relationship between those incentives and job creation in the state;
3. current programs, including "New Mexico True", legislative priorities and proposed legislation of the Tourism Department;
4. the TRD report on the impact of 2013 legislation on economic development and employment in the state and the effects of the passage of House Bill 641 in the 2013 session;
5. the Alcohol and Gaming Division of the Regulation and Licensing Department's (RLD's) procedures related to liquor licensing, the impact of those procedures on businesses and economic development and any necessary policy revisions;
6. reports from the Workforce Solutions Department (WSD), the LFC and industry representatives on growing industries, including nuclear energy and waste, renewable energy, health care and home-based work, that could create jobs in New Mexico;
7. a report by the New Mexico Film Division of the EDD on recent legislation affecting the film industry and updates from the division;
8. a report by the Construction Industries Division of the RLD on 2013 legislation related to construction inspectors and code compliance measures and how changes in the law are being implemented by the division;
9. the disparity between the number of health care jobs in New Mexico and the number of qualified health care workers entering New Mexico's work force each year; and any necessary policy revisions to reduce this disparity and to encourage employment of New Mexicans in health care positions;
10. oral health care needs in rural areas and dental therapist legislation;
11. employment, fair wages and high rates of unemployment and poverty in New Mexico and possible policy changes;
12. New Mexico Partnership's report on businesses looking to move to or expand in New Mexico;
13. the activities and recent initiatives of Spaceport America;
14. individual development accounts and possible related legislation to be proposed;
15. the programs of the New Mexico Aviation Aerospace Association, including the Education Alliance;
16. economic development issues and obstacles faced by rural communities and Indian tribes, nations and pueblos within New Mexico;
(17) the role of institutions of higher education and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) schools in producing a skilled New Mexico workforce; and policy changes to increase education, training and, ultimately, employment in the state;

(18) the impact of oil and gas ordinances and regulations on the state's revenues;

(19) agriculture and value-added agriculture and the EDD's, New Mexico State University's and industry representatives' reports on their contributions to and potential growth of the state's economy;

(20) the relationship between farming and health and economic development; and connecting farmers with schools, institutions and other buyers;

(21) mining activity in New Mexico, including copper and the proposed Roca Honda uranium mine; and issues related to mining, including job creation and environmental impact;

(22) the economic gardening model, focusing on the role of entrepreneurs in growing economies; and the status of current economic gardening initiatives in New Mexico;

(23) activities and businesses of the New Mexico Borderplex and New Mexico's success through the Borderplex in the international economic market;

(24) the development of designated areas within Albuquerque, including the Route 66 corridor;

(25) broadband telecommunications availability and its relationship to economic and rural development; and activities and progress of the New Mexico Broadband Working Group;

(26) the Research and Development Small Business Tax Credit Act and the activities of the New Mexico small business assistance program;

(27) public-private partnerships, 2013 legislation and proposed legislation for 2014; and

(28) renewable energy industries in New Mexico, including wind, geothermal and solar resources, and their roles in New Mexico's economy and development.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to receive presentations on the following:

(1) the current and proposed programs and legislative priorities of the EDD, including reports on Spaceport America, the work of the New Mexico Film Division of the EDD and the MainStreet program;

(2) the current and proposed programs and legislative priorities of the WSD;

(3) the current and proposed programs and legislative priorities of the Tourism Department;

(4) the LFC's staff reports on economic and rural development and work force issues in New Mexico;

(5) the Liquor Control Act and the recommendations of the RLD's Liquor Control Act Task Force;

(6) food and farming systems in the state, including relationships between farming,
(7) the economic development opportunities in and around Santa Teresa, including updates on the New Mexico Borderplex and Union Pacific Corporation's rail and freight facilities;
(8) broadband telecommunications availability in New Mexico and the work of the Department of Information Technology (DOIT) New Mexico Broadband Working Group;
(9) state contracting and procurement reform;
(10) the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, including presentations by local and railroad representatives;
(11) the work of the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) Task Force on Real Estate Contracts;
(12) renewable energy industries in New Mexico and the state's renewable energy production tax credit;
(13) residential foreclosures and the work of the state's foreclosure task force;
(14) the relationship between breweries and community economic development, and related legislative proposals;
(15) business incubation and economic development;
(16) public television as an economic development tool;
(17) an update from the Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation and Occupational Disease Disablement of the Workers' Compensation Administration;
(18) housing in New Mexico, including affordable housing and housing availability;
(19) STEM education and the science early education program;
(20) issues related to the state's high-tech industry work force and training;
(21) oral health care in rural New Mexico;
(22) state support for local economic development organizations;
(23) proposed economic development-related legislation;
(24) tax policies aimed at assisting low-income and working families;
(25) agricultural tourism;
(26) financial readiness—an assessment of federal funds received by New Mexico;
(27) the Convention of States;
(28) state regulation of sharing economies;
(29) nontraditional approaches to economic development;
(30) presentations on economic security, business development and fair lending;
(31) the impacts of forest fires on the state's communities;
(32) state support for nonprofit organizations;
(33) business development opportunities for entrepreneurs;
(34) economic development in the state's Native American communities;
(35) air and rail transportation; and
additional issues affecting rural and economic development in the state.

Indian Affairs Committee
2013, 2014

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<th>IAC Membership 2013</th>
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<td>Rep. Sandra D. Jeff, Co-Chair, Crownpoint</td>
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<td>Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros, Questa</td>
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<td>Monica Ewing</td>
<td>Mark Edwards</td>
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<td>Alex Tapia</td>
<td>Michelle Jaschke</td>
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The Indian Affairs Committee (IAC) was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on April 30, 2013 and again on May 5, 2014.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to explore and discuss topics in the following major issue areas affecting Native Americans.

A. State-Tribal Relations:

(1) discuss state resources available to Native American farmers and ranchers affected
by severe drought conditions and Indian resource development institutes focused on agriculture, engineering and business education;

(2) review the process for entering into and renewing the Indian Gaming Compact;
(3) study the process to establish state recognition of Indian nations, tribes and pueblos in New Mexico;
(4) assess state resources for recovery assistance to the pueblos affected by the severe wildfires;
(5) review state-tribal jurisdiction on domestic matters, including full faith and credit and enforcement of protective orders;
(6) evaluate state agency reports on activities pursuant to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act;
(7) consider the involvement of state legislators in government-to-government relations with tribes and participation in the state-tribal summit;
(8) discuss outreach efforts conducted by the Veterans' Services Department (VSD) to Native American veterans;
(9) review the process for requesting early voting sites in Indian country and the participation of Native American youth working in the polls; and
(10) discuss the cross-deputization/dual endorsement of tribal police.

B. Health:

(1) assess health care, including dental care, for Native Americans and in Native American communities;
(2) evaluate implementation of the Native American Suicide Prevention Advisory Council and its collaboration with the Clearinghouse for Native American Suicide Prevention to develop and provide culturally based suicide prevention initiatives for Native Americans as mandated by Senate Bill 417 (2011 regular session) and Senate Bill 447 (2013 regular session);
(3) review mental health programs and services for Native Americans;
(4) explore issues of domestic violence against Native American women and children;
(5) review the process of solid waste monitoring on Native American land; and
(6) assess elderly care and services available to the elderly Native American community.

C. Development in Indian Country:

(1) discuss capital outlay concerns, including tracking the expenditure of allocated funds, alternative funding sources and coordination with the Navajo Nation, including chapter certifications under the Navajo Nation's Local Governance Act;
(2) review the funding of projects from the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund, including the projections of allocated amounts pursuant to the Severance Tax Bonding Act;
(3) review the funding of the Indian water rights settlements, including the Navajo,
Aamodt, Taos Pueblo and Abeyta Indian water rights settlements, including the use of severance tax bonding capacity;

(4) explore tribal utility projects on Indian lands, including gas and electric projects;

(5) compare and contrast the funding of projects in Indian country through the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund and capital outlay and the impacts of tribal capital outlay reversions pursuant to the Tribal Infrastructure Act;

(6) review the MainStreet program;

(7) review transportation issues, including railroad crossings and road projects; and

(8) discuss telecommunications issues, including double charging and access.

D. Education:

(1) evaluate the implementation of the Indian Education Act, the implementation of the American Indian Post-Secondary Education Act and general education of Native Americans, including improvements to performance;

(2) review Native American study programs and resources at higher education institutions;

(3) study the feasibility of providing lottery scholarships to otherwise eligible students who attend tribal colleges;

(4) consider the establishment of a bi-state charter school;

(5) consider the establishment of a mock or pilot civic training program for Native American youth similar to the boys and girls state civic training program;

(6) assess resources for students with special needs and their parents; and

(7) ask the New Mexico Legislative Council to assess the need for a subcommittee composed of members of the LESC and the IAC to evaluate impact aid in New Mexico.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to explore and discuss topics in areas affecting Native Americans as follows.

A. State-Tribal Relations:

(1) receive a report from the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) regarding the Leasehold Community Assistance Act;

(2) review the updates from the state and the seven tribes currently negotiating to operate Class III gaming operations;

(3) assess state and federal resources for recovery assistance to pueblos affected by severe wildfires and subsequent flooding;

(4) review state-tribal jurisdiction on domestic affairs matters, including full faith and credit and enforcement of protective orders;

(5) discuss outreach efforts conducted by the VSD to Native American veterans;

(6) review the process for requesting early voting sites in Indian Country, providing voting materials in Native American languages and the participation of Native American youth working
at the polls; and

(7) discuss the cross-deputization/dual endorsement of tribal police.

B. Health:

(1) assess health care, including dental care, for Native Americans and in Native American communities;

(2) assess Native American suicide prevention efforts and discuss culturally based suicide prevention initiatives for Native Americans as mandated by Senate Bill 417 (2011 regular session) and Senate Bill 447 (2013 regular session);

(3) review mental health programs and services for Native Americans;

(4) explore issues of domestic violence against Native American women and children;

(5) assess elderly care and services available to the elderly Native American community;

(6) review the effect of health care coverage expansions on the Indian Health Service (IHS) and tribal health programs;

(7) receive a report on matters relating to the provision of Medicaid coverage to recipients who identify as Native American; make information available on the web site; and report in writing and in person on specific questions (House Memorial 84, 2014 regular session);

(8) receive an update on the proposed creation of a liver transplant institute in New Mexico (House Memorial 48, 2013 regular session); and

(9) discuss drug and alcohol recovery issues and efforts to curb drivers from driving while intoxicated.

C. Development in Indian Country:

(1) discuss capital outlay concerns, including tracking the expenditure of allocated funds and alternative funding sources;

(2) review the funding of projects from the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund, including the projections of allocated amounts pursuant to the Severance Tax Bonding Act;

(3) compare and contrast the funding of projects in Indian Country through the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund and capital outlay and the impacts of tribal capital outlay reversions pursuant to the Tribal Infrastructure Act;

(4) explore tribal utility projects on Indian lands, including gas and electric projects, and the Jicarilla Apache Utility Authority;

(5) review transportation issues, including railroad crossings and road projects;

(6) discuss telecommunications issues, including double charging, access and broadband for higher education institutions; and

(7) receive a report by the Public Regulation Commission on the allocation and recovery of access fees, charges and trespass fines paid by electric distribution cooperatives to any Native American governmental entity (House Memorial 17, 2014 regular session).
D. Education:

(1) evaluate the implementation of the Indian Education Act, the implementation of the American Indian Post-Secondary Education Act and the general education of Native Americans, including efforts to improve student performance;

(2) review Native American study programs and resources at higher education institutions and tribal colleges;

(3) study the feasibility of providing lottery scholarships to otherwise eligible students who attend tribal colleges and examine state programs, policies, procedures and budget and funding requests, including the legislative lottery tuition program, to identify where tribal colleges are excluded (House Memorial 37, 2014 regular session);

(4) consider the establishment of a bi-state charter school;

(5) evaluate how the federal Impact Aid Program works in New Mexico and explore ways to improve it;

(6) assess resources for students with special needs and their parents; and

(7) evaluate proposals for school consolidation.

E. Reports from State Agencies:

(1) receive a report from the state engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) regarding:

(a) the status of proposed Indian water rights settlements requiring state financing;

(b) the distribution of funds from the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund to implement approved settlements; and

(c) recommendations on the level of funding for the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund necessary to timely implement Indian water rights;

(2) receive a report from the Indian Affairs Department regarding the compiled reports from all state agencies on activities pursuant to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act, including information on policies, plans, contact individuals, training and programs and services from each agency;

(3) receive a report from the TRD on the department's estimates of the amount of state personal income taxes withheld from the military income of Native American veterans domiciled on their respective tribal lands, the number of Native American veterans or their survivors affected by such withholding of state personal income taxes, total expenditures for the previous fiscal year and the anticipated appropriations needed to pay for settlements to be entered into for the next fiscal year;

(4) receive a report from the Tribal Infrastructure Board regarding the total expenditures from the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund for the previous fiscal year, the purposes for which expenditures were made, an analysis of the progress of the projects funded and proposals for legislative action in the subsequent legislative session;

(5) receive a report from the Cultural Affairs Department regarding who has the right to
use the Zia sun symbol and if there are any restrictions on how it may be used (Senate Memorial 1, 2014 regular session); and

(6) receive a report from the secretary of health and the secretary of human services on Medicaid reform issues and the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange and how it relates to Native Americans.

**Investments and Pensions Oversight Committee**

2013, 2014

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<td>Sen. George K. Munoz, Vice Chair, Gallup</td>
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<td>Sen. Sue Wilson Beffort, Sandia Park</td>
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<td>Rep. Luciano &quot;Lucky&quot; Varela, Santa Fe</td>
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<td>Rep. Roberto &quot;Bobby&quot; J. Gonzalez, Taos</td>
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<td>Rep. William &quot;Bill&quot; J. Gray, Artesia</td>
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<td>Sen. Stuart Ingle, Portales</td>
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<td>Rep. Emily Kane, Albuquerque</td>
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<td>Sen. Michael S. Sanchez, Belen</td>
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<td>Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton, Albuquerque</td>
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The Investments and Pensions Oversight Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on April 30, 2013 and again on May 5, 2014.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to:

1. receive reports from the Educational Retirement Board (ERB) and the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) on current projections, for each member plan, related to the solvency of the pension funds and changes in the retirement plans resulting from legislation enacted during the 2013 legislative session;

2. receive testimony from the ERB, the PERA and the Retiree Health Care Authority and, as deemed necessary, their actuaries, employee representatives, fiscal experts and others regarding the status of the applicable funds and investments;

3. receive testimony from the PERA, the Administrative Office of the Courts and employee representatives on potential changes to the Judicial Retirement Act and the Magistrate Retirement Act, based on current projections of solvency of those pension plans;

4. receive reports from the appropriate agencies and staff regarding the state's capital outlay expenditures and process;

5. receive reports from the Office of the Attorney General, private plaintiffs or others regarding the progress of current litigation and of potential claims by the state and the funds regarding "pay-to-play" allegations and investment fraud, etc.;

6. examine the performance of the investment portfolios of the State Investment Council (SIC), the PERA and the ERB and funds in the state treasury in absolute terms and compared to policy benchmarks and comparable funds. This would include the returns on the entire portfolio, as well as the return on individual segments, including stocks, bonds, real estate and private equity;

7. receive reports from the SIC related to the programs of the SIC aimed at enhancing the economic development in the state;

8. receive testimony on the investment policies, practices and returns of the economically targeted investment programs of the SIC, particularly the Private Equity Investment Advisory Committee, the Small Business Investment Corporation and the film loan program;

9. review the manner in which investment policy and associated earning benchmarks were set for the investment funds by the governing bodies and investigate how each agency determines the proportional mix of types of investments, including mutual stock and bond funds, individual stocks and bonds, real estate and private equity, etc. The committee will focus on how investment policies for the retirement funds have changed in response to changes in projections regarding program solvency and unfunded liabilities;

10. receive reports from the Education Trust Board regarding all investment earnings and federal 529 College Savings Plan program operations; and

11. receive reports from the PERA regarding the legislative retirement plans.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to:
(1) receive reports from the ERB and the PERA on current projections related to the solvency of the pension funds for each member plan;

(2) receive testimony from the ERB, the PERA and the Retiree Health Care Authority and, as deemed necessary, their actuaries, employee representatives, fiscal experts and others regarding the status of the applicable funds and investments, investment earnings and fees paid on the investments;

(3) receive reports from the PERA regarding the legislative retirement plans;

(4) receive reports from the PERA regarding the magistrate and judicial retirement plans and changes in the retirement plans resulting from legislation enacted during the 2014 legislative session;

(5) receive reports from the Education Trust Board regarding investment earnings and federal 529 College Savings Plan program operations;

(6) review the manner in which investment policy and associated earning benchmarks were set for the investment funds by the governing bodies and investigate how each agency determines the proportional mix of types of investments, including mutual stock and bond funds, individual stocks and bonds, real estate and private equity, etc. The committee will focus on how investment policies for the retirement funds have changed in response to changes in projections regarding program solvency and unfunded liabilities;

(7) receive reports from the SIC related to the programs of the SIC aimed at enhancing the economic development in the state;

(8) receive testimony on the investment policies, practices and returns of the economically targeted investment programs of the SIC, particularly the Private Equity Investment Advisory Committee, the Small Business Investment Corporation and the film loan program;

(9) examine the performance of the investment portfolios of the SIC, the PERA and the ERB and funds in the state treasury in absolute terms and compared to policy benchmarks and comparable funds. This would include the returns on the entire portfolio, the returns on individual segments, including stocks, bonds, real estate and private equity, and all fees paid on the investments;

(10) receive reports from the Office of the Attorney General, private plaintiffs or others regarding the progress of current litigation and of potential claims by the state and the funds regarding "pay-to-play" allegations and investment fraud, etc.;

(11) receive reports from the SIC regarding ongoing litigation against the former executive director of the now-defunct Region III Housing Authority;

(12) receive reports from the DFA regarding relevant Government Accounting Standards Board statements; and

(13) examine other issues related to the investment of public funds and the administration of pensions, as necessary.
The Land Grant Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on April 30, 2013 and again on May 5, 2014.

For the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to focus on:

1. an overview of land grant history, including contemporary history (a continuing item throughout the interim);
2. a Tierra Amarilla Land Grant follow-up;
3. updates from and discussion with the United States Forest Service (USFS) on:
   a. the Strikeforce Initiative (New Mexico is a pilot state);
   b. Nuestra Señora del Rosario San Fernando y Santiago Land Grant (Truchas) and Abiquiu Land Grant boundary disputes;
   c. phase 2 of the memorandum of understanding with the USFS and land grants (master stewardship plans);
(d) United States Department of Agriculture programs available to assist land grants and rural development; and

(e) traditional use rights once granted to Las Trampas Land Grant;

(4) a Bureau of Land Management presentation on land disposal — San Antonio de las Huertas (Placitas);

(5) Incitor — a progress update and economic development opportunities on land grants;

(6) Mount Taylor — an update on the New Mexico Supreme Court decision (when it is handed down);

(7) training of New Mexico's lawyers and judges in land grant issues — discussion with the Hispanic Bar Association and UNM School of Law;

(8) conflicts and problems with land grant elections — recent examples from the San Miguel del Vado Land Grant and Anton Chico Land Grant, with input to be requested from the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Secretary of State;

(9) native plant use and traditional use of forest resources — a discussion;

(10) the relationship between the Land Grant Council and the DFA and the NMFA;

(11) quiet title actions: Ojo Caliente, Arroyo Hondo and San Cristobal de la Serna;

(12) a continuing dialogue on taxation issues — exploring exemption of taxes for land grants or intercepting part of already collected taxes, such as mill levy or property taxes;

(13) revisiting the definition of a land grant heir;

(14) an examination of the need for any changes to Chapter 49 NMSA 1978 (land grants);

(15) training for boards of trustees of land grants;

(16) cemetery access at San Joaquin del Rio Chama;

(17) colonias infrastructure development funds — geographic restrictions;

(18) an update on issues regarding state adherence to the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo — summary of findings by the federal Government Accountability Office study and relevant state issues;

(19) acquisition of surplus properties in the Tome Land Grant from El Cerro de Tome;

(20) an update on efforts to involve land grants with the film industry;

(21) an examination of the feasibility of creating a land grant infrastructure fund, perhaps modeled on the existing colonias infrastructure funds;

(22) an examination of state-owned property that was once land grant land;

(23) coordination of capital outlay requests by land grants; and

(24) an examination of the situation of subgrants in the land grant community and how they might be assisted.

For the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to focus on:
(1) an overview of land grant history, including contemporary history (a continuing item throughout the interim);
(2) creation of a working group to review capital outlay and land grants;
(3) a Tierra Amarilla Land Grant follow-up — investigation into alleged misappropriation of funds and the reorganization of the land grant;
(4) updates from and discussion with the USFS on:
   (a) the Strikeforce Initiative;
   (b) Nuestra Señora del Rosario San Fernando y Santiago Land Grant (Truchas) and Abiquiu Land Grant boundary disputes;
   (c) an update on the memorandum of understanding with the USFS and land grants (master stewardship plans);
   (d) traditional use rights of land grants on USFS lands; and
   (e) the use of law enforcement powers by the USFS;
(5) an update from the Bureau of Land Management;
(6) an update from the Acequia Commission;
(7) an update on the New Mexico Supreme Court decision on the Mount Taylor Traditional Cultural Properties designation opinion;
(8) conflicts and problems with land grant elections;
(9) native plant use and traditional use of forest resources;
(10) traditional use rights and state-owned properties;
(11) the relationship between the Land Grant Council and the DFA and the NMFA;
(12) continuing dialogue on taxation issues — exploring exemption of taxes for land grants, or intercepting part of an already collected tax, such as a mill levy or property taxes;
(13) an examination of the need for any changes to Chapter 49 NMSA 1978 or other statutes pertaining to land grants;
(14) training for boards of trustees of land grants;
(15) an examination of the feasibility of creating a land grant infrastructure fund or a guaranteed revenue stream for land grants;
(16) an examination of the situation of subgrants in the land grant community and how they might be assisted;
(17) land grants and the New Mexico legal community — how to create wider understanding of the legal issues pertaining to land grants among the state's judges and attorneys;
(18) budgetary needs of the Land Grant Council;
(19) the role of the Land Grant Council in setting capital outlay priorities for land grants;
(20) an examination of a need for a Department of Hispanic Affairs; and
(21) an exploration of the use of the community development block grant program in land grants.
Section 2-13-1 NMSA 1978, which creates the interim LHHS, directs the committee to conduct a continuing study of the programs, agencies, policies, issues and needs relating to health and human services.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to review issues in the following areas.
Medicaid

With the federal approval of the federal waiver under Section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act, the HSD prepared to implement its "Centennial Care" program to deliver Medicaid benefits to individuals whose income, disease status or disability qualifies them to receive Medicaid health benefits. The HSD greatly reduced the list of managed care organizations that would be offering physical, behavioral and long-term services to Medicaid recipients. The committee proposed to review the implementation of the new, integrated and coordinated care model. The effect of this change in recipients' access to services and on providers will be important.

Pursuant to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), the state's Medicaid program eligibility would expand as of January 1, 2014 to allow adults whose incomes fall below 138 percent of the federal poverty level to enroll in Medicaid, regardless of disability, disease status or parental status. The committee proposed to track how much outreach and education the HSD is performing pursuant to this expansion and the effect this may have on future health care costs as well as uncompensated care.

The committee proposed to review the HSD's decision to discontinue its policy of providing three months' retroactive eligibility to Medicaid enrollees and the effect this may have on stakeholders and on uncompensated care.

The HSD agreed not to require people who identify as Native American to enroll in managed care. The committee proposed to explore the options available for these fee-for-service Medicaid recipients, including the effect that increased Medicaid enrollment among Native Americans may have upon tribal providers, including independent tribal health enterprises and the IHS.

Enrollment among children who were eligible for Medicaid continued to drop in the Medicaid program, with a reported 40,000 children eligible but not enrolled, many of them in Native American communities. The committee proposed to hear the HSD's position on children's enrollment, the possibilities for increasing enrollment through policies such as "fast-track" enrollment and the effect that a continued drop in enrollment among New Mexican children may have on those children's health and development and on providers' uncompensated care burden, as well as the effect on health disparities.

The committee proposed to examine Medicaid dental care benefits, especially those for adults, and consider the adequacy of these benefits in meeting recipients' dental health care needs.

The HSD proposed to cover the expansion of the population of adults with an "alternative benefits package" that provides fewer benefits than the full Medicaid benchmark plan, yet more benefits than are provided to adults enrolled in the State Coverage Insurance program, for which enrollment has ceased. The committee proposed to learn what benefits will be included and what the effect will be on stakeholders and for uncompensated care costs.

The PPACA provides for stricter Medicaid fraud measures, many of which involve additional electronic claims editing and review. The committee proposed to inquire as to the HSD's progress in implementing Medicaid fraud and error provisions, and the work of the Office of the Attorney General.
to enforce state and federal anti-fraud law, with a possible review of the efforts of other states, including Texas and North Carolina, to implement robust anti-fraud programs.

The HSD's ASPEN system allows for greater data processing and reporting than was previously available under the HSD's outdated ISD2 system. The committee proposed to review ASPEN's potential in affording the legislature greater oversight of the Medicaid program through compilation of data on utilization, outreach and enrollment and other important indicators of how Medicaid is fulfilling its role.

The federal Indian Health Care Improvement Act of 1976 was permanently reauthorized under the PPACA. One of the provisions that could have an important impact on the state's Medicaid plan is a provision that authorizes exploration of deeming the Navajo Nation as a "state" for Medicaid purposes. The committee proposed to hear testimony from Navajo Nation officials and the HSD on the progress of this exploration.

**New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act**

With the 2013 passage of the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act, the state moved quickly to establish a state-based health insurance exchange. The committee proposed to hear testimony from the appointed board of directors of the exchange about its plan of operation and the superintendent of insurance about rulemaking related to the exchange. Other important matters for the committee to review included:

- ♦ the viability of the information technology (IT) infrastructure of the exchange;
- ♦ staffing the exchange;
- ♦ the establishment of a navigator program pursuant to the PPACA, as well as the use of in-person assisters, agents and brokers to enroll people and employers in qualified health plans;
- ♦ Native American participation in the exchange and the establishment of a Native American advisory council to the exchange pursuant to the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act;
- ♦ preparations to study premium growth on and outside of the exchange; and
- ♦ the effect of changes to the Health Insurance Alliance Act on approved health plan enrollees and insurer members.

**Health Insurance Regulation**

With the passage of House Bill 45 (Chapter 74), the Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI) was established as of July 1, 2013. The committee proposed to:

1. (1) hear testimony from the new or reappointed superintendent of insurance and OSI staff as to the OSI's plans to move forward in the regulation of health insurance;
2. (2) review how the OSI planned to implement the insurance requirements of the PPACA in light of the continued absence of state-level legislation to conform New Mexico statutes to the PPACA health insurance provisions, such as guaranteed issue and a ban on preexisting condition exclusions; and
(3) hear testimony from the OSI on reinsurance and consider the question of whether the reinsurance program would help reduce costs in coverage for public employees and retirees. The OSI is responsible for creating and implementing a reinsurance program to cover retirees who are younger than 65 years old and thus ineligible for Medicare, as the PPACA requires.

The committee also proposed to hear testimony from the superintendent of insurance on the superintendent's role as rulemaker and tie-breaking director on the exchange, as well as the OSI's actuarial and policy recommendations regarding exchange viability, including the avoidance of adverse selection and excessive premium growth on the exchange. This information is important for helping legislators decide whether legislation would be needed to expand the definition of "small employer", whether to later allow large employers to purchase on the exchange or whether legislation would be needed to curtail adverse selection.

The New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool's future is an important consideration for the state, including its role in providing affordable coverage to high-risk enrollees and the possible effect of including this population on the exchange. The committee proposed to hear testimony on the viability of offering affordable, effective coverage to the pool population, as the rest of the insurance market would be affected by these decisions.

The committee proposed to hear testimony regarding two new sources of coverage to be available through the exchange: a nonprofit "co-op" plan owned by enrollees; and a multistate plan to be offered through the federal Office of Personnel Management.

Large employers in the state raised concerns regarding the PPACA's requirement that large employers either purchase health coverage for their employees or pay a yearly fine. Large health care provider entities, such as nursing facilities, home health care entities and hospitals, raised questions about their future viability in light of the PPACA requirement and reimbursement rates that they report to be too low to allow them to provide this coverage. The committee proposed to review the effect of the coverage mandate on health and human service providers and other large employers.

**Native American Health**

The state faces enormous disparities in the health status and access to health care among its ethnic and racial groups. The most glaring of these disparities exists between Native Americans and all other groups. The PPACA contains a permanent authorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which sets as federal priorities supports for self-direction and the elimination of health disparities between Native and non-Native Americans. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that Native American rates of chronic disease, suicide, infant mortality and sexually transmitted diseases are much higher than the rates for those health conditions and incidents in other populations. These rates correspond to Native Americans' poverty rates, which are also the highest among racial and ethnic populations in the United States.

The committee proposed to:

(1) continue to explore the health disparities and the steps that New Mexico tribes,
nations and pueblos, state agencies and the federal government are taking to address these disparities, including specific efforts to provide intergenerational care, control chronic disease and promote wellness; and

(2) hear testimony on aging in Native American communities, including reports from tribal agencies that provide supports to elders.

Health Care Work Force

One of the greatest health policy challenges facing the state is the lack of trained health care professionals able to serve an increasing population of residents with access to health care services, while a large proportion of health care providers retire or otherwise cease to offer their services in the state.

The PPACA provides for a number of health care and human service work force-related grants. The committee proposed to hear testimony on what grants have been applied for and what opportunities exist for using these funds to increase work force supply.

The committee proposed to hear the program analysis performed by the LFC staff, as well as UNM's Center for Workforce Analysis, on the state's health care work force and an update on the status of the state's supply of health care professionals, and to identify policy solutions to work force supply challenges.

The committee proposed to review best practices in this state and other states regarding health care work force "pipeline" and retention programs. This included examining work force education, including:

♦ the bachelor's-to-M.D. and D.D.S. programs;
♦ solutions to the limit on the number of residencies available to train doctors in the state;
♦ the role of private educational institutions in meeting the health care work force supply needs; and
♦ the adequacy of current educational arrangements in supplying the state's dental health care needs.

There are a number of immigrant residents of New Mexico who are health professionals trained in their home countries. Language and licensure barriers prevent many of these professionals from providing licensed health care in New Mexico. The committee planned to hear a proposal to use these professionals' health care and native-language skills and employ them as "community health specialists", who would offer health education, health literacy and chronic disease management assistance to New Mexicans who share these professionals' languages.

The committee also proposed to:

(1) examine the role of dental health care practitioners, including allied dental health care providers;
(2) hear testimony on the value that donated dental and medical services have for
patients as well as health care costs in the state;

(3) review the role of allied or "mid-level" health care practitioners in expanding access to health care, including, among other matters, nurse practitioners' and certified nurse-midwives' potential in addressing some of the unmet need for primary care providers; and

(4) hear testimony on payment parity between primary care providers and physical therapists, occupational therapists and chiropractors.

**Aging and Long-Term Care**

The committee proposed to hear testimony:

(1) from the Aging and Long-Term Services Department about its plan for 2013-2017 as well as programming related to the federal Older Americans Act of 1965 and the challenges raised by an expected explosion in the population of New Mexicans who are over 65 years old; and

(2) on best practices in providing the supports necessary to keep elders in their homes to age in place, rather than become dependent or institutionalized. This included examining legal-medical partnerships to protect seniors' rights, assisting seniors who are raising grandchildren and strategies for self-management, including avoiding falls, managing chronic disease and providing support for community caregivers.

**Children and Youth**

With the passage of Senate Bill 365 (Chapter 118), the CYFD is charged with establishing a statewide, evidence-based home visiting program. The LHHS proposed to hear from the CYFD on its plans to implement the program and from LFC staff on the value of early childhood programming.

The Children's Cabinet offered to apprise the committee of its latest policy priorities and initiatives.

The J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force was charged with reporting to the LHHS, by November 2013, on its recommendations for improving the quality and coordination of early childhood services in the state and improving some of the outcomes for New Mexico, from which the LHHS would hear expert testimony on the work of the CYFD and from the CYFD itself on its work to deliver services and protect children in the state.

The committee also proposed to:

(1) examine best practices in the field of child abuse and neglect prevention;

(2) examine the role and capacity of citizen review boards to protect children in foster care;

(3) hear an overview from staff and students from a medical-legal partnership clinical program at UNM of how their clinic helps to ensure that children receive the legal help they need to maintain access to health care services and to protect them from abuse, neglect and exploitation;

(4) examine the role of school-based health centers in providing access to health care services in light of an expected increased demand in the need for health care services among those who
may be insured pursuant to the PPACA; and

(5) study the practice of prescribing psychotropic drugs to children, the potential harm of inappropriate prescribing and best practices in meeting children's needs without overprescribing.

**Health Care Delivery**

With the passage of Senate Bill 586 (Chapter 151), sole community provider hospitals may be reimbursed with Medicaid funds pursuant to the 1115 waiver under which the Centennial Care program operates. The committee proposed to examine the effect of this legislation, as well as decreases in Medicare reimbursement pursuant to federal sequestration and sole community provider program changes, while demand is expected to increase pursuant to PPACA provisions such as Medicaid expansion and health coverage mandates.

The committee also proposed to:

(1) examine the effect on the health care system of increased ownership of provider practices by hospitals and the effect that this would have on health care service availability, costs and pricing;

(2) hear findings from a feasibility study by the Department of Health (DOH) and the UNM hospitals regarding the establishment of a liver transplant facility in the state;

(3) hear testimony on the incidence of "never" or "seminal" health care events and efforts to decrease their occurrence;

(4) hear testimony regarding reports that non-hospital health care facilities and assisted living facilities are largely unregulated in the state, going for long periods without any oversight or inspection, and would include in its review the matter of conditions at physician practices where abortions are performed; and

(5) examine the cost of health care in the state corrections system, including the cost of laboratory services provided through a third-party contractor.

**Population Health, Health Conditions and Well-Being**

The committee proposed to:

(1) review health disparities, including the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Report Card, and the specific concerns from African American community members that their health concerns have been neglected;

(2) study the health and well-being of New Mexico's working poor, migrant workers, dairy workers and other agricultural workers, including reporting on pesticide exposure and Parkinson's disease;

(3) examine hunger in the state, including reports relating to food insecurity among children, seniors and low-income residents, and also examine the federal-state Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as "food stamps", and SNAP's role in addressing food insecurity;
(4) review employment training offered through the federal-state Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program and other updates to the TANF program;

(5) examine the need for and availability of services for homeless people, including services for victims of human trafficking; and

(6) examine the impact of immigration reform on immigrants' access to health care and the possibilities for decreasing uncompensated care, including any barriers to health coverage for immigrants such as the ban on Medicaid coverage for new legal permanent residents.

New Mexico is among those states with a centralized public health agency, the DOH. Citizens' health councils have been a means of providing local input on public health policy in the state. The committee proposed to look at the work of health councils and the impact of recent years' cuts to these councils.

The DOH issued a study on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, which requested the committee to receive the department's report on the subject.

Patients enrolled in the state's medical marijuana program have raised concerns about the lack of adequate growers and producers in the state. The committee proposed to hear testimony from patients, advocates and the DOH on this issue.

Palliative care is health care that is designed to decrease suffering and comfort patients who have forgone therapeutic care. The committee proposed to hear testimony on best practices in palliative care and palliative care's potential in increasing the quality of end-of-life care.

Members of and advocates for individuals with disabilities have requested that the committee hear matters, previously heard by the Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee, related to the developmental disabilities services Medicaid home- and community-based waiver. The committee proposed to hear matters relating to recent changes to the waiver.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to review issues in the following areas.

**Human Services Department**

Medicaid/Centennial Care — The new Centennial Care program approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services began implementation as of January 1, 2014. The LHHS proposed to hear testimony from the HSD, local and national experts, consumers and advocates for consumers on the transition from the previous Medicaid system that had separate programs for children and families, disabled individuals and behavioral health coverage to a system that integrates physical health, behavioral health and long-term care coverage — with the exception of developmental disability supports and services.

The LHHS proposed to examine the effects that the expansion in Medicaid eligibility, alongside the Centennial Care changes, changes in hospital reimbursement and ongoing Medicaid fraud allegations and investigations, are having on Medicaid recipients, providers and the state at large.

The LHHS also proposed to hear testimony related to the program of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE), which is offered only to those Medicaid long-term service recipients living in
Albuquerque, and examine the possibilities for extending PACE’s availability to Medicaid long-term service recipients statewide.

The LHHS proposed to track developments and hear status updates on Medicaid fraud allegations and hear testimony from the HSD, the New Mexico attorney general and other agencies, local providers, consumers, advocates and experts as well as information from other states that are facing similar situations.

Income Support Division — The LHHS proposed to hear testimony from the HSD and its Income Support Division, applicants and recipients for public benefits administered by the division and advocates and experts relating to matters under the division’s administration. These included findings by federal oversight agencies and allegations by applicants, recipients and advocates about problems experienced in application processing, eligibility determinations, training and employment programs and erroneous disenrollments from programs.

The LHHS also proposed to hear testimony relating to recent changes in eligibility and participation guidelines for the TANF cash and medical assistance program, which were reportedly leading to a significant reduction in TANF rolls and affecting the performance of TANF contractors.

**Children and Families**

The LHHS proposed to make child and family welfare a major focus for the 2014 interim. At its May 23, 2014 organizational meeting, the committee heard testimony from the LFC on its investigations into an evidence-based program to reduce child maltreatment and its program review of the CYFD. The committee proposed to:

1. hear testimony related to the effect that adverse childhood events have on future outcomes for individuals, families and the state;
2. review the CYFD’s and other agencies’ and institutions’ work to improve protective services and increase retention, staff training and the foster care system and supports;
3. receive a report pursuant to Senate Joint Memorial 3 from the 2014 regular session with detailed information on protective services and foster care, and review supports necessary to have fully functioning citizen review boards;
4. hear testimony on the risk factors, status, supports and services for homeless children in the state;
5. examine the prevalence and causes of hunger among New Mexico children and families in light of SNAP cuts and other factors that have contributed to New Mexico children being rated as facing the greatest hunger in the United States, according to a recent study;
6. hear testimony on the issue of obesity, obesity interventions and malnutrition;
7. hear reporting pursuant to House Memorial 16 from the 2014 regular session on services for sexually exploited minors;
8. hear a report on a study on African American maternal and infant health;
9. hear an update on the continued work of the J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task
(10) hear reporting on grandparents as caregivers.

**Health Coverage**

Two major health coverage provisions of federal law have been implemented: the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange (NMHIX) began its initial operations in October 2013, and the state's Medicaid program expanded its eligibility to all previously ineligible adults with incomes below 138 percent of the federal modified adjusted gross income. The LHHS proposed to:

1. examine the effects of increased Medicaid enrollment and enrollment in qualified health plans on the NMHIX;
2. hear reports pursuant to requests for health care coverage data from the NMHIX, Medicaid and the OSI; and
3. hear general information about the operations of the NMHIX in its first year and the transition to a wholly state-operated exchange from a partially federally operated exchange as of October 2014.

Related issues that the LHHS proposed to review included the effect of coverage expansions on the IHS and tribal health programs and the future of the federal and state high-risk health insurance pools as well as related premium taxation.

The LHHS also proposed to hear:

1. testimony from experts, state agencies and advocates on a Basic Health Program option available pursuant to federal law to cover individuals greater than the Medicaid eligibility maximum;
2. testimony on the status of health insurance premiums and other health insurance market information from experts, including the OSI; and
3. hear an LFC report on the Interagency Benefits Advisory Committee and the state's health care purchasing through its constituent agencies.

**Joint Meeting with the CCJ**

Due to the overlapping concerns of the LHHS and the CCJ relating to several matters, the LHHS proposed to hold a joint meeting with the CCJ to hear testimony on behavioral health treatment; the availability of behavioral health treatment for both mental illness and substance dependence; Medicaid for individuals released from custody; and corrections health care, including the Corrections Department's contracts for medical laboratory services.

**Health Care Work Force**

The LHHS proposed to hear the report of the working group convened pursuant to Senate Joint Memorial 6 from the 2014 regular session requesting that an interdisciplinary working group on the state's health care work force needs and existing infrastructure be convened by the UNM Health
Sciences Center. The LHHS also proposed to hear:

1. the reports of working groups created pursuant to legislative memorials relating to other health professional communities, including testimony about three states that have enacted legislation to create the profession of "dental therapist";
2. testimony on the effect that managed care organization provider credentialing practices have on the state's work force;
3. testimony on DOH staff compensation policies; and
4. testimony on a proposal to create the profession of community health specialist using personnel with health professional licensure from other jurisdictions.

Public Health/Health Infrastructure

The LHHS proposed to hear testimony on the status of hospitals statewide in the wake of changes in Medicaid and other federal and state reimbursement, including changes in hospital funding approved by the legislature during the 2014 regular session.

Regarding the state's medical cannabis program, the LHHS proposed to hear from the DOH, which administers the program, and from medical cannabis producers, potential producers, users and advocates on production quotas, provider selection criteria and the availability of medical cannabis.

The committee proposed to hear testimony on advance health care planning, including the practice of some health care providers to assist patients in making their wishes known through advance directives, and to continue its examination into end-of-life choices, including aid in dying and the Oregon death-with-dignity model.

Pursuant to 2013's House Memorial 48, a research study was performed by experts on the feasibility of creating a liver transplant facility in the state. The LHHS planned to hear the final report on this issue.

The committee proposed to hear testimony on brain injury. House Memorial 9, which passed during the 2014 regular session, requests the Brain Injury Advisory Council to study the effects of concussions on athletes and veterans statewide. The LHHS proposed to hear the council's report pursuant to this study and to hear presentations on traumatic brain injury and sports-related brain injury, including traumatic brain injury inflicted during military service or through substance use. Among the programs that the committee planned to review were UNM's "Brain Safe Project" and similar programs nationwide that make pre-injury and post-injury assessments of sports-related injuries.

The committee proposed to hear testimony on programs to decrease the effects and incidence of sexual assault in the state, including sexual assault that occurs in correctional facilities.

Health, aging and disability experts from a variety of camps have identified a lack of transportation for individuals seeking access to medical services as a major challenge to individuals' health and independence. For some individuals, such as new dialysis patients, adequate and reliable transportation can mean the difference between surviving and not surviving their first difficult months on dialysis. Individuals in Native American communities and rural New Mexico who have been
enrolled in health coverage due to increased access to coverage may not be able to access health care due to a lack of transportation. The LHHS proposed to examine possible solutions to these unmet transportation needs.

Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee

2013, 2014

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The Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee was first created by statute for the 2009 interim session and then permanently reauthorized by statute during the 2010 regular session.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to explore and discuss the following topics:

(1) education opportunities and programs offered by state educational institutions and public community colleges, including expanding veterans resource centers to locations throughout the state and touring the New Mexico Military Institute;

(2) health care delivery systems for military personnel and veterans, including
partnerships between the VSD, DOH and United States Bureau of Indian Affairs;
(3) issues related to access to care, including the transportation of veterans who reside in rural areas to medical and behavioral health care facilities;
(4) support and treatment options for veterans and military personnel with posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, including alternative treatment options, community programs and state and federal partnerships;
(5) family support issues and concerns and the programs available to veterans and military personnel and their families from the state and local communities;
(6) the prevention of homelessness and support for homeless veterans in areas throughout the state;
(7) jobs and business opportunities for veterans, including the implementation and impact of the veterans' preference, the veteran employment tax credit and incubator programs;
(8) an update on the base realignment and closure process;
(9) a tour of and an update on Holloman Air Force Base;
(10) strategic planning by the VSD, including planning for long-term care for aging veterans in the state, cemetery space and the economic impact of veterans on the state; and
(11) a review of the Veterans' Services Department Act and discussion of possible changes needed to provide the department with the authority necessary to help ensure that the state can meet veterans' needs.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to:
(1) assess the oversight, implementation and effectiveness of the resident veteran-owned business preference in state purchases;
(2) examine issues related to access to health care, including the United States Veterans Health Administration hospitals and wait lists for doctor appointments, including perspectives from veterans' service organizations;
(3) receive testimony regarding health care delivery systems for military personnel and veterans, including partnerships among the VSD, DOH, IHS and federal Bureau of Indian Affairs;
(4) explore support and treatment options for veterans and military personnel with posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, including alternative treatment options and their availability in various areas of the state;
(5) receive an update on the military base realignment and closure process;
(6) examine requirements for veterans' cemeteries;
(7) receive testimony pertaining to education opportunities and outreach to veteran students offered by state educational institutions and public community colleges;
(8) examine options for the prevention of homelessness and support for homeless veterans in areas throughout the state;
(9) receive testimony regarding jobs and business opportunities for veterans, including
the veteran employment tax credit and incubator programs;
(10) receive an update on the SunZia transmission line project;
(11) study long-term care options for veterans;
(12) receive testimony regarding potential consolidation of National Guard armories;
(13) study potential clarification of the veteran property tax exemption;
(14) receive testimony regarding proposed DOH changes to medical marijuana rules,
particularly as they relate to veterans; and
(15) study remediation of the fuel spill at Kirtland Air Force Base.

Mortgage Finance Authority Act Oversight Committee
2013, 2014

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The MFA Act Oversight Committee was created pursuant to the provisions of Section 58-18-5 NMSA 1978.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to focus on the following areas of legislative concern:

(1) regional housing policy and budget trends;
(2) changes to existing and proposed rules promulgated by the MFA;
(3) an MFA funding source and program overview;
(4) federal budget and housing finance reform — impacts for the MFA and affordable housing;
(5) a tour of Casitas de Colores in downtown Albuquerque;
(6) the Housing First Model;
(7) federal housing policy and budget trends;
(8) a review of the MFA budget and 2013-2014 strategic plan;
(9) Affordable Housing Act rule changes;
(10) a New Mexico Housing Trust Fund report and funding source overview;
(11) a New Mexico foreclosure update;
(12) a report on bonds issued and a market update;
(13) proposed legislation for the 2014 session;
(14) the Attorney General's Home Ownership Preservation program, including the MFA's role; and
(15) a joint meeting with the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee on veteran homelessness issues.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to focus on the following areas of legislative concern:

(1) regional housing policy and budget trends;
(2) changes to existing and proposed rules promulgated by the MFA;
(3) an MFA funding source and program overview, including the MFA's single-family mortgage products, and the NM Energy$mart program;
(4) supportive housing;
(5) federal housing policy and budget trends;
(6) a review of the MFA budget, current strategic plan and new 2015-2017 strategic plan;
(7) a New Mexico Housing Trust Fund report and funding source overview;
(8) foreclosure prevention efforts, including a report from the Foreclosure Process Task Force;
(9) a report on bonds issued and financing strategies and a market update; and
(10) a review of 2014 legislation and proposed legislation for the 2015 session.
New Mexico Finance Authority Oversight Committee

2013, 2014

The NMFA Oversight Committee was created with the enactment of the New Mexico Finance Authority Act to monitor and oversee the operations of the NMFA. In addition, the legislature assigned oversight of the Border Authority, the Spaceport Authority and the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority (NMRETA) to the committee.

During the 2013 interim, the NMFA Oversight Committee proposed to:

(1) monitor and oversee the operations of the NMFA and review the NMFA's operational budget, investments, policies, audit committee processes, allocation of resources, funds and loan programs;

(2) take testimony on the structure and organization of the NMFA;

(3) receive progress reports on capital and public projects funded through the NMFA;

(4) review the status of bonds that the NMFA has the statutory authority to issue;

(5) review the status of funds that the NMFA has the statutory authority to administer;

(6) take testimony and make recommendations on the NMFA's administration of loans and grants;

(7) take testimony from the chair of the NMFA board about board actions;

(8) review the maximization of federal funds available to New Mexico;

(9) review projects proposed for funding through the Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund and review and approve the policies and procedures of the Colonias Infrastructure Board;

(10) monitor and oversee the operations and budget of the Border Authority and review and analyze the Border Authority's projects, goals and needs;

(11) monitor and oversee the operations and budget of the Spaceport Authority and review its projects, goals and needs;

(12) monitor and oversee the operations and budget of the NMRETA and its contracts, funding, goals and needs;

(13) receive testimony on the consideration of projects eligible for funding under the Water Project Fund;

(14) receive testimony on transportation infrastructure needs and funding options, including bonds issued through Governor Richardson's Investment Partnership program; and

(15) report to the legislature and recommend necessary changes in law or policy.

During the 2014 legislative interim, the NMFA Oversight Committee proposed to:

(1) monitor and oversee the operations of the NMFA and review the NMFA's operational budget, policies, audit committee processes, allocation of resources, funds and loan programs;

(2) review the bonds that the NMFA has issued in the current or recent fiscal year or will issue in the current or next fiscal year;
### Voting

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<tr>
<td>Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom, Chair, Gallup</td>
<td>Sen. Joseph Cervantes, Chair, Las Cruces</td>
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<td>Sen. Joseph Cervantes, Vice Chair, Las Cruces</td>
<td>Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom, Vice Chair, Gallup</td>
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<td>Sen. Phil A. Griego, San Jose</td>
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### Advisory

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<tr>
<td>Sen. Sue Wilson Beffort, Sandia Park</td>
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<td>Rep. Anna M. Crook, Clovis</td>
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<td>Sen. Stuart Ingle, Portales</td>
<td>Rep. Emily Kane, Albuquerque</td>
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<td>Sen. Mary Kay Papen, Las Cruces</td>
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<td>Sen. John Pinto, Gallup</td>
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<td>Sen. Nancy Rodriguez, Santa Fe</td>
<td>Sen. Clemente Sanchez, Grants</td>
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### Staff

- Lisa Sullivan
- Tessa Ryan
- Alex Tapia

*Sen. Soules was replaced as a voting member by Sen. Rodriguez, who had been an advisory member.*
(3) review the active programs that the NMFA administers;
(4) take testimony and make recommendations to the NMFA on planning, setting priorities for and financing state and local capital projects;
(5) receive testimony on the consideration of projects eligible for funding under the Water Project Fund and review the policies and procedures of the Water Trust Board;
(6) review projects proposed for funding through the Colonias Infrastructure Project Fund and review and approve the policies and procedures of the Colonias Infrastructure Board;
(7) take testimony from the chair of the NMFA board about board actions;
(8) monitor and oversee the operations and budget of the Border Authority, review and analyze the Border Authority's projects, goals and needs and make recommendations to the Border Authority on planning, setting priorities for and financing border and port of entry projects;
(9) receive testimony from the Trade and Mexican Affairs Division of the EDD on the state's work on New Mexico-Mexico financial relations, trade and border development;
(10) monitor and oversee the operations, budget, progress, projects and proposals of the Spaceport Authority and review and make recommendations on its projects, goals and needs;
(11) monitor and oversee the operations, budget, progress, projects and proposals of the NMRETA and its contracts, funding, goals and needs; review any rule changes; and review and make recommendations to the NMRETA before it enters into a project; and
(12) report to the legislature and recommend necessary changes in law or policy.

Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee

2013, 2014

The Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee was created in 1979 pursuant to the provisions of the Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Act.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to review:
(1) federal nuclear energy initiatives;
(2) WIPP operations and management;
(3) U.S. Department of Energy "energy park" initiatives for LANL, WIPP and Sandia National Laboratories;
(4) Department of Environment programs and operations;
(5) LANL progress on uranium legacy site cleanup and shipment of waste to WIPP;
(6) renewable energy initiatives; and
(7) the consequences of waste streams to landfills, including accidental breaking of compact fluorescent lights in residences and electronic wastes that have heavy metal components.
During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to review:

1. WIPP operations and management;
2. federal nuclear energy initiatives;
4. Department of Environment programs and operations;
5. LANL progress on uranium legacy site cleanup and shipment of waste to WIPP;
6. renewable energy initiatives;
7. legacy military waste disposal;
8. small modular reactors;
9. Kirtland Air Force Base fuel spill status; and
10. environmental implications of the sale of mercury-containing light bulbs.
Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee
2013, 2014

The Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee is created in statute by Section 2-16-1 NMSA 1978.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to:

1. examine the tax code and all other taxes not compiled in the tax code and discuss each tax based on the contribution to state revenue made by each tax and the adherence of each tax to the sound tax policy principles of:
   a. adequacy;
   b. efficiency;
   c. equity;
   d. simplicity; and
   e. accountability;

2. review the revenue status of the state, examine current revenue sources and discuss changes to revenue sources to ensure adequacy of revenue, including tax preparation fraud and the effectiveness of TRD oversight and enforcement of tax collection;

3. review the effectiveness and value to the state of tax incentives, suggest changes to achieve state goals, including the benefits of transferability of income tax credits, and observe progress on projects benefiting from tax incentives;

4. continue to examine exemptions, deductions and credits to determine the ability to report and track the effectiveness and value to the state of tax incentives;

5. review the capital outlay process, the balances remaining in outstanding projects and the estimates of funds previously appropriated and available for future projects and discuss proposed changes to improve the process;

6. review trends in state investment earnings, including trends in the balances of the Severance Tax Permanent Fund and the land grant permanent funds and review the revenue received by the state from gaming within the state and the progress of tribal-state gaming negotiations;

7. determine legislative actions necessary to implement changes identified by committee members that will improve the tax system in New Mexico, including consideration of:
   a. increasing the working families tax credit;
   b. achieving revenue adequacy for the State Road Fund;
   c. addressing the limitation on property tax valuations and resulting property tax lightning;
   d. responding to congressional action to allow state taxation of remote sellers and internet sales; and
   e. formalizing procedures to provide more accurate and timely fiscal impact reports that might also provide dynamic scoring;
(8) evaluate recent tax and revenue-related legislation introduced in an effort to reduce ambiguity, mitigate unintended consequences and ameliorate deficiencies; and

(9) review the revenue status of gaming within the state, including lottery gaming, Indian gaming and gaming conducted by racinos and fraternal and other organizations.
The committee also proposed to coordinate, as needed, with other committees regarding presentation of subject matter of common concern, particularly regarding sources of revenue that can be used to support transportation needs in New Mexico, and to hear a final report from the Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee regarding its recommendations and proposed action.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to:

1. examine the tax code and all other taxes not compiled in the tax code and discuss each tax based on the contribution to state revenue made by each tax and the adherence of each tax to the sound tax policy principles of:
   (a) adequacy;
   (b) efficiency;
   (c) equity;
   (d) simplicity; and
   (e) accountability;

2. review the effectiveness and value to the state of tax incentives, including progress on projects benefiting from tax incentives, and suggest changes to achieve state goals;

3. continue to examine exemptions, deductions and credits to determine the ability to report and track the effectiveness and value to the state of tax incentives;

4. evaluate recently enacted tax and revenue-related legislation in an effort to reduce ambiguity, mitigate unintended consequences and ameliorate deficiencies;

5. discuss the possibility of New Mexico being chosen as a location for the Tesla gigafactory, including economic incentives that New Mexico can offer and possible regulatory obstacles;

6. review the revenue status of the state, examine current revenue sources and discuss changes to revenue sources to ensure adequacy of revenue, including the effectiveness of TRD oversight and enforcement of tax collection;

7. review trends in state investment earnings, including trends in the balances of the Severance Tax Permanent Fund and the land grant permanent funds;

8. review the status of gaming within the state, including revenue received by the state from lottery gaming, Indian gaming and gaming conducted by racinos and fraternal and other organizations, and the progress of tribal-state gaming negotiations;

9. review tax laws that impact local governments, including hold harmless provisions, recent legislation affecting what were formally known as sole community providers and procedures for reducing distributions of local taxes to local governments due to overpayments to those local governments;

10. review the capital outlay process, the balances remaining in outstanding projects and the estimates of funds previously appropriated and available for future projects and discuss proposed changes to improve the process; and
determine legislative actions necessary to implement changes identified by committee members that will improve the tax system in New Mexico, including consideration of:

(a) increasing the working families tax credit;
(b) achieving revenue adequacy for the State Road Fund;
(c) addressing the limitation on property tax valuations and resulting property tax lightning;
(d) addressing property tax valuations of agricultural land;
(e) responding to congressional action to allow state taxation of remote sellers and internet sales; and
(f) formalizing procedures to provide more accurate and timely fiscal impact reports that might also provide dynamic scoring.

The committee proposed to coordinate, as needed, with other committees regarding presentation of subject matter of common concern, including a joint meeting with the Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee regarding sources of revenue for state transportation needs. The committee also proposed to hear a report from a team of tax professionals on:

1. the contribution to state revenue of the GRT;
2. the cost and benefits of deductions and exemptions from the GRT;
3. the existing and future GRT base; and

Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee
2013, 2014

The Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on April 30, 2013 and again on May 5, 2014.

The committee's main focus during the 2013 interim process was to find solutions that lead to legislative action in emerging technologies, communication infrastructure, IT and technology transfer. The committee proposed to study opportunities, through the use of innovative technologies, for New Mexico in the areas of water reuse, energy, energy storage, education and agriculture. The intention of the committee was not to receive promotional presentations, but, rather, to understand how the legislature can promote new and existing ideas to create a positive impact on New Mexicans' lives, to find opportunities that enhance New Mexico universities, to take advantage of the strengths of the national laboratories and to foster an environment for technology transfer and job creation.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to review:

1. DOIT program responsibilities over statewide human accounting and resource
management reporting system (SHARE) upgrades, the unemployment insurance system, the State Land Office's ONGARD system, the Motor Vehicle Division of the TRD system status, the HSD ASPEN system, the state's supercomputer and the Information Technology Commission;

(2) current status and right-of-way issues regarding REDI Net;

(3) advanced water treatment systems for domestic and municipal uses, including reuse or recycling of water;

(4) telecommunications issues, including broadband deployment in rural areas and smart regulation;

(5) telecommunications for the hearing impaired;

(6) centers of excellence and innovation — creating top programs at New Mexico universities that match the direction of the national laboratories and governor's chairs;
(7) energy storage — report from the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD);
(8) geothermal, solar and wind infrastructure opportunities;
(9) research and education in institutes of higher education and K-12 — STEM fields;
(10) agriculture technology advances;
(11) public/private partnerships for technology transfer;
(12) obstacles to technology transfer from research to commercialization — venture capital and lending;
(13) innovations with natural gas;
(14) federal funds to telecommunications carriers;
(15) status of the spaceport;
(16) use of energy produced in New Mexico;
(17) investments in timber extraction and processing;
(18) technology improvements in agricultural water use, including drip irrigation;
(19) business incubators for technology transfer;
(20) SIC investments in technology;
(21) NMFA investments in the Jicarilla Apache water system;
(22) NMRETA status;
(23) Alamogordo national desalination research facility;
(24) tax incentives for technology transfer;
(25) the IT status of the NMHIX; and
(26) telemedicine.

The committee's main focus during the 2014 interim was to act as an oversight committee of the DOIT. It also proposed to continue to look for solutions that lead to legislative action in emerging technologies, communication infrastructure, IT and technology transfer, as well as to study opportunities, through the use of innovative technologies, that enhance New Mexico universities, take advantage of the strengths of the national laboratories and foster an environment for technology transfer and job creation.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to review:

(1) DOIT program responsibilities and related IT issues, including:
   (a) SHARE upgrades;
   (b) the unemployment insurance system;
   (c) the State Land Office's ONGARD system;
   (d) the system status of the Motor Vehicle Division of the TRD;
   (e) the HSD ASPEN system;
   (f) the Information Technology Commission;
   (g) the IT status of the NMHIX;
(h) telemedicine systems;
(i) the secretary of state's IT system;
(j) the CYFD IT system;
(k) the status of the overhaul of the Land Information Management System at the State Land Office; and
(l) cybersecurity and data breach;
(2) broadband and telecommunications availability and deployment across the state, including assessment of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers;
(3) advanced water treatment systems for domestic, municipal and agricultural uses;
(4) New Mexico Telecommunications Act issues;
(5) centers of excellence and innovation — creating top programs at New Mexico universities that match the direction of the national laboratories and governor's chairs;
(6) energy technology policies, including geothermal, solar and wind infrastructure opportunities;
(7) STEM education;
(8) technology commercialization and transfer;
(9) the status of Spaceport America;
(10) computer coding education and work force training;
(11) E-911 Fund status;
(12) the intellectual property investment fund;
(13) the science championship competition;
(14) UNM programs, including "brain safe", education television and degree plans;
(15) the higher education endowment process;
(16) hydrogen tax credit legislation; and
(17) electric cooperative access fees.

Tobacco Settlement Revenue Oversight Committee

2013, 2014

The Tobacco Settlement Revenue Oversight Committee is created in Section 2-19-1 NMSA 1978.

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to:

(1) monitor the status of the revenue for current and future fiscal years and reserves for the Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund and the use of the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund through committee oversight and evaluation of those programs recommended by the committee and funded by the legislature; review the enforcement requirements under the Master Settlement Agreement; and
compare funding levels recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with funding levels in New Mexico;

(2) receive testimony regarding tobacco settlement-related issues, litigation and legislation, and prepare recommendations of program funding levels for FY 2015, based on the committee's program evaluation process;

(3) make recommendations as necessary for changes in legislation relating to and regarding use of tobacco settlement revenue; and

(4) make recommendations available to the New Mexico Legislative Council and the LFC on or before December 15, 2013.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to:

(1) monitor the status of the revenue for current and future fiscal years and reserves for the Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund and the use of the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund through committee oversight and evaluation of those programs recommended by the committee and funded by the legislature; review the enforcement requirements under the Master Settlement Agreement; and compare funding levels recommended by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with funding levels in New Mexico;

(2) receive testimony regarding tobacco settlement-related issues, litigation and legislation, and prepare recommendations of program funding levels for FY 2016, based on the committee's program evaluation process;

(3) make recommendations to the LFC on the use of tobacco settlement revenue;

(4) make findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, available to
the legislature as part of the committee's final report; and
(5) receive testimony and examine issues relating to:
   (a) e-cigarettes and tobacco products;
   (b) state and federal definitions of "tobacco product";
   (c) proposed federal regulations pertaining to tobacco products;
   (d) the effectiveness of smoking cessation and prevention services within
Native American communities in New Mexico;
   (e) the effect of the PPACA on future Medicaid spending from the Tobacco
Settlement Program Fund;
   (f) findings and recommendations of the Tobacco Use and Employer Costs
Task Force; and
   (g) potential application of the Dee Johnson Clean Indoor Air Act to e-
cigarettes.

Water and Natural Resources Committee
2013, 2014

The Water and Natural Resources Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative

During the 2013 interim, the committee proposed to focus on:
(1) water management, research, litigation and projects, including testimony on:
   (a) reports required by statute from the state engineer and the ISC;
   (b) an update on the status of Indian water rights settlements and the status of
state cost-share funding through the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund;
   (c) an update on the status of the revised biological opinion for the middle Rio
Grande;
   (d) an update on the Gila River planning process (Arizona Water Settlements
Act of 2004);
   (e) acequia issues;
   (f) state and regional water plans updates;
   (g) state-federal cooperation on watershed health planning and management;
   (h) a report on the study of the Rio Grande levees within Valencia, Bernalillo
and Sandoval counties — Mid-Rio Grande Levee Task Force;
   (i) Water Trust Board projects and funding;
   (j) rules on the protection of ground water resources;
   (k) a review of domestic well management areas and Bounds v. State of New
| WNRC Membership  
| 2013 |
| WNRC Membership  
| 2014 |

**Voting**

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<td>Sen. Phil A. Griego, Chair, San Jose</td>
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**Advisory**

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*Rep. Easley passed away during the interim and was replaced on the committee by Rep. Perea.*
Mexico; and

(i) other issues as determined by the chair;

(2) agriculture, land use and game and fish issues, including:

(a) renewable energy portfolio standards and thermal energy from forest biomass (Senate Bill 204, 2013);

(b) an update on state parks from the State Parks Division of the EMN RD;

(c) a report on game and fish issues in the state from the Department of Game and Fish, including listing of the lesser prairie chicken; and

(d) a report on livestock issues from the New Mexico Livestock Board; and

(3) Drought Subcommittee reports.

During the 2014 interim, the committee proposed to focus on:

(1) water management, research, litigation and projects, including testimony on:

(a) reports required by statute from the state engineer and the ISC;

(b) Indian water rights settlements in the adjudication process;

(c) active water resource management implementation;

(d) the Gila River planning process and projects (federal Arizona Water Settlements Act of 2004);

(e) acequia issues;

(f) state and regional water plans updates;

(g) long-term financing of forest and watershed treatment and restoration and forest health;

(h) a report on the study of the Rio Grande levees within Valencia, Bernalillo and Sandoval counties — Mid-Rio Grande Levee Task Force;

(i) water project financing programs and process;

(j) the role of regional water authorities;

(k) a drought survey/water vulnerabilities study; and

(l) water adjudications and courts; and

(2) agriculture, land use, natural resource and game and fish issues, including:

(a) renewable energy portfolio standards for geothermal energy;

(b) production tax credits for wind and solar energy;

(c) capping of abandoned water, oil and gas wells;

(d) a Department of Game and Fish update and elk population update;

(e) the Kirtland Air Force Base fuel spill cleanup;

(f) a beaver management plan;

(g) agricultural hemp production;

(h) the farm to table/healthy foods in schools program;

(i) New Mexico Mining Association issues; and

(j) access to water on federal lands.
SUBCOMMITTEES, TASK FORCES AND SPECIAL INTERIM BODIES
The Behavioral Health Subcommittee of the LHHS was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on April 30, 2013 and again on January 20, 2014.

During the 2013 interim, behavioral health topics that were proposed for presentation before either the full LHHS or the Behavioral Health Subcommittee included:

1. the cost to local communities of incarcerating or hospitalizing mentally ill individuals who are unlikely to live safely in the community;

2. the cost-effectiveness of community-based early intervention alternatives for the mentally ill population, such as community engagement teams, crisis intervention teams, crisis outreach and support teams and harm reduction;

3. the status of the Centennial Care carve-in of behavioral health services and details of its implementation, with presentations from stakeholders, Medicaid managed care organizations and the Behavioral Health Services Division of the HSD;

4. the ongoing role of the Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative;

5. updates on the activities of the statewide and local behavioral health collaboratives;

6. behavioral health needs of veterans suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder and
of incarcerated women for successful reentry into the community;
(7) prescription drug dependence and overdose prevention, including the availability of and indications for substance abuse services for pregnant women;
(8) the state's laws regarding treatment guardians; and
(9) recommendations for improving the way that the state provides outpatient behavioral health services.

During the 2014 interim, the subcommittee proposed to focus on:
(1) the current state of the state's behavioral health system;
(2) substance use and abuse;
(3) adolescent and school-based behavioral health;
(4) violence as a public health issue;
(5) the role of law enforcement and corrections in addressing behavioral health needs of inmates and detainees;
(6) strategies to reduce hospitalization and incarceration of persons who suffer from mental illness;
(7) funding challenges; and
(8) local programs.

The subcommittee also proposed to focus on developing a long-term and realistic strategic plan to reach needed behavioral health service capacity in five years.

In addition to the subcommittee's work on behavioral health issues, the full LHHS proposed to hear testimony from experts, state agency officials and staff and stakeholders on safety concerns for individuals with mental illnesses living in the community in housing situations often called "boarding homes", where conditions might be substandard and where these mentally ill individuals might be subject to unsafe conditions, exploitation or abuse.

Committee on Compacts
2013, 2014

The Committee on Compacts is created in Section 11-13A-5 NMSA 1978 to consider the requirements of the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, provisions of existing state law and the best interests of the tribes and the citizens of the state in considering any compact or amendment submitted to it. By statute, the committee meets only when a compact or an amendment to a compact is proposed.

During the current biennium, the committee held three meetings to consider proposed changes to the Class III gaming compact between the state and the Navajo Nation. At its first meeting, held in March 2013, the committee voted to recommend that the legislature approve the 2013 compact, but the legislature took no action on the matter prior to adjourning. At the committee's third meeting on the
matter, held in February 2014, the committee voted to recommend that the legislature approve the 2014 compact; while the compact did pass the house during that session, it did not pass the senate.
The Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee of the CCJ was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on October 11, 2013 and again on January 20, 2014. The subcommittee, which had bipartisan leadership, proposed for both interims to study ongoing criminal justice reform efforts in the state as well as reform efforts in other states that might be applied in New Mexico.

Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee

2013, 2014

The Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee is created in Section 2-13-3.1 NMSA 1978 as a permanent subcommittee of the LHHS.

During the 2013 interim, the subcommittee proposed to review:

1. services for individuals with developmental disabilities;
2. regulation of group homes for individuals with developmental disabilities;
3. protecting the disabled from abuse and exploitation;
4. services for traumatic and non-traumatic brain injury; and
5. funding of programs for the visually impaired.

During the 2014 interim, the subcommittee proposed to:

1. review the implementation of and services provided to eligible persons under the state's developmental disability waiver and under Centennial Care, the state's new Medicaid waiver.
program; and

(2) hear testimony relating to autism spectrum disorder.

The subcommittee also proposed to hold one of its meetings during the 2014 Southwest Conference on Disability in Albuquerque.

### Drought Subcommittee

#### 2013

The Drought Subcommittee of the Water and Natural Resources Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on April 30, 2013.

During the 2013 interim, the subcommittee proposed to focus and report to the full committee on:

1. drought management plans and policies;
2. ground water storage and recovery;
3. the strategic water reserve;
4. the Rio Grande Compact;
5. the Pecos River Compact;

The subcommittee also proposed to hold one of its meetings during the 2014 Southwest Conference on Disability in Albuquerque.
(6) augmentation of the water supply;
(7) a drought outlook, including a report from the New Mexico Drought Task Force;
(8) implementation of active water resource management;
(9) federal Endangered Species Act challenges;
(10) conservation; and
(11) a Colorado River Basin water supply and demand study.

Jobs Council
2013, 2014

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<th>JOBS Membership</th>
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<td>Rep. W. Ken Martinez, Co-Chair, Grants</td>
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<td>Sen. Mary Kay Papen, Co-Chair, Las Cruces</td>
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<td>Sen. Phil A. Griego, San Jose</td>
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<td>Sen. Stuart Ingle, Portales</td>
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<td>Sen. John C. Ryan, Albuquerque</td>
<td>Sen. Steven P. Neville, Aztec</td>
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<td>Sen. Michael S. Sanchez, Belen</td>
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<td>Ray M. Baca</td>
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<td>Claudia Armijo</td>
<td>Claudia Armijo</td>
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Sec. Celina C. Bussey
Beverlee J. McClure
Alex O. Romero
Eric Witt

Staff
Tessa Ryan
Monica Ewing
Raúl E. Burciaga
The Jobs Council was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on April 30, 2013 and again on January 20, 2014.

During the 2013 interim, the council proposed to participate in a comprehensive series of six work sessions to develop consensus on a statewide economic development agenda, centered on:

1. coherence, to establish goals and the process, methodology, theoretical framework and nomenclature for determining actionable economic development priorities;
2. economic predicament, to identify the number of new, economic-base jobs that must be created in the next 10 years in order to return to pre-recession job number levels, and to begin to identify the sectors to target and the initiatives and policies to implement in the next three to five years in order to spur that 10-year growth;
3. economic sector selection, to create a ranked list of the sectors with the highest potential for generating the economic-base jobs goal set in session two and, using market rationale, to estimate the number of new jobs that can be created in each sector;
4. geographic distribution and resource gaps, to identify areas of the state in which the new economic-base jobs on the ranked list created in session three are most likely to be created, and to develop a matrix indicating:
   a. the target number of new jobs that could be created in each region or location;
   b. the major industry sectors in which those jobs would be classified and the major impediments to each sector;
   c. job creation, considering such factors as the quality and availability of the work force;
   d. the quality and presence of infrastructure;
   e. the amount of accessible capital;
   f. the tax and regulatory environment; and
   g. the quality and availability of real estate, marketing and sales programming;
and
5. policy and program recommendations, to identify existing and future policy and program initiatives that have the potential to create the number of jobs necessary to reach the Jobs Council's targeted goals.

During the 2014 interim, the council proposed to continue its work of developing a job-creation agenda by:

1. revising the criteria that it uses to evaluate job-creation proposals;
2. considering for advancement initiatives for job creation that were proposed at its 2013 interim sessions;
3. considering new initiatives for job creation; and
4. developing a refined understanding of the barriers, by region, to job creation
through the development of a reporting system for job-need and job-creation assessment.

The council also proposed to review the product of its past work, which consisted in part of a tool, a set of criteria, that can be used to identify the strength of a particular legislative initiative in combating the jobs-loss problem, and a set of proposed legislative initiatives organized by category of barrier to job creation. The council proposed to refine its job-creation-initiative evaluation tool and decide which of its previously proposed legislative initiatives to pursue and to consider new initiatives for advancement and fashion strategies for promoting its agenda.

To carry out its work, the council proposed that representatives of in-state, local economic development organizations and other job-creation stakeholders gather by region to participate in sessions similar in framework to that of the council's 2013 interim process to:

1. attempt to define their region's jobs-loss predicament;
2. establish regional job-creation goals;
3. determine the economic sectors from which it is most likely that economic-base jobs will be created; and
4. identify the barriers preventing those jobs from being created.

Data and findings generated from the regional sessions, which would be continually updated, would be published online and reported to the council, with the intention that the information improve policymakers' and the public's understanding of each region's employment profile, potential for job creation and job-creation needs.

**Public School Capital Outlay Oversight Task Force**

*2013, 2014*

The Public School Capital Outlay Oversight Task Force is created in Section 22-24-7 NMSA 1978 as the permanent entity overseeing the implementation of the work of the Public School Capital Outlay Council and the Public School Facilities Authority.

Pursuant to statute, the task force proposed to focus during the 2013 interim on:

1. monitoring the progress and effectiveness of programs administered pursuant to the Public School Capital Outlay Act and the Public School Capital Improvements Act;
2. examining existing permanent revenue streams to ensure that they remain adequate long-term funding sources for public school capital outlay projects;
3. monitoring the overall progress of continuing to bring all public school facilities to the statewide adequacy standards developed pursuant to provisions in the Public School Capital Outlay Act, including an examination of the original intent of the establishment of the standards-based process and its evolution as it has been implemented;
4. monitoring the inclusion of the New Mexico School for the Deaf and the New
Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in the standards-based process, including the unique constitutional nature of these schools and their historical nature; and

(5) overseeing the work of the Public School Capital Outlay Council and the Public School Facilities Authority as they perform functions pursuant to the Public School Capital Outlay Act, particularly as they continue to implement the statewide standards-based process for making grant awards.

*Tracy Hoffman replaced Robbie Heyman.*
The task force proposed to focus during the 2014 interim on:

1. monitoring the progress and effectiveness of programs administered pursuant to the Public School Capital Outlay Act and the Public School Capital Improvements Act;
2. examining existing permanent revenue streams to ensure that they remain adequate long-term funding sources for public school capital outlay projects;
3. monitoring the overall progress of bringing all public school facilities to the statewide adequacy standards developed pursuant to provisions in the Public School Capital Outlay Act, including examination of the original intent of the establishment of the standards-based process and its evolution as it has been implemented;
4. taking testimony from the litigant school districts in the Zuni capital outlay lawsuit on progress and concerns related to implementation of the court order in their respective districts;
5. continuing to monitor the inclusion of the New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the New Mexico School for the Deaf in the standards-based process, including the unique constitutional nature of these schools and their historical nature;
6. continuing to oversee the work of the Public School Capital Outlay Council and the Public School Facilities Authority as they continue to implement the statewide standards-based process for making grant awards;
7. taking testimony on compliance with requirements included in Public School Capital Outlay Council grant award contingencies that school districts demolish school buildings that have been replaced with new buildings that were funded in whole or in part from the Public School Capital Outlay Fund;
8. examining issues related to charter school facilities, including lease assistance from the state, use of public school buildings and other public buildings to accommodate charter schools; charter schools and the use of lease-purchase agreements; and discussion of charter school compliance with the 2015 deadlines to be in public buildings;
9. reviewing progress on the implementation of Laws 2014, Chapter 28, regarding establishment of a process to correct deficiencies in school districts' respective educational technology infrastructures in light of the electronic implementation of the state's student assessment of readiness for college and careers in the 2014-2015 school year;
10. examining school transportation capital outlay issues; and
11. reviewing provisions of the Public School Capital Outlay Act, the Public School Capital Improvements Act and the Public School Buildings Act and making recommendations for changes as necessary.
Senate Rules Committee

2013, 2014

The Senate Rules Committee is the only standing committee of the legislature allowed to meet during the interim. Upon the approval of the voters in 1986, Article 4 of the Constitution of New Mexico was amended to add Section 42, which allows the committee to operate during the interim to conduct hearings and take testimony on the confirmation or rejection of gubernatorial appointments. The Senate Rules Committee then makes its recommendations to the next session of the legislature.

Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee

2013, 2014

The Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee of the New Mexico Legislative Council was created by the council for the current biennium on April 30, 2013 and again on May 5, 2014.

During the 2013 interim, the subcommittee proposed to review and discuss:

1. existing sources and methods of funding for transportation infrastructure and ways to increase revenue from those existing sources and methods, including the gasoline tax, the special fuels tax, the motor vehicle excise tax and the weight distance tax;

2. trends that are causing a decline in the amount of funding from existing revenue sources, including the uncertainty of the availability and amount of federal funds;

3. short-term and long-term needs for maintaining and improving the state's transportation infrastructure, the levels of funding necessary to meet those needs and the challenges in obtaining the necessary levels of funding;

4. areas of greatest cost in the state's transportation infrastructure and opportunities for
eliminating unnecessary costs;

(5) safety and liability issues due to aging and outdated equipment, bridges and roadways and options to better monitor and control speeding in construction zones;

(6) technological advances in transportation-related technology, including "weigh-in-motion" sensor systems that calculate the weight per axle of a truck as it drives over a sensor pad;

(7) the economic impact that the transportation infrastructure industry has on the state, including potential job creation;

(8) ideas and perspectives from local governments;

(9) the feasibility of a more comprehensive rail and bus transit system to reduce congestion and use of surface streets in larger cities;

(10) the benefits, issues and opportunities for improvement in commuter travel on the New Mexico RailRunner;

(11) alternative methods and sources of funding studied or implemented in other states to identify which methods and sources may be best utilized in New Mexico, including:

(a) fees or taxes on alternative fuel or electric vehicles;

(b) imposition of "vehicle miles traveled", or VMT fees, where motorists are
charged a fee for every mile driven within the state rather than for the amount of gasoline they consume;

(c) authorization of tolling or high-occupancy toll lanes;

(d) design-build contracts, which are arrangements whereby a single bid is accepted for both the design and construction of a project;

(e) public/private partnerships; and

(f) tax incentives to encourage employees to work from home and reduce wear on roadways; and

(12) other potential sources of funding and new strategies for financing transportation infrastructure in the state.

During the 2014 interim, the subcommittee proposed to review and discuss:

(1) transportation infrastructure needs within the state and any relevant revenue shortfalls, including discussions of:

(a) any maintenance, reconstruction and expansion needs for the state highway and road system, with examination of:
   - the structural integrity of New Mexico's highways and bridges;
   - road and highway infrastructure demands created by the recent growth in oil production;
   - the condition and safety of rural roads and highways; and
   - initial findings from the Department of Transportation (DOT) during its development of a long-range road and highway plan;

(b) any secondary infrastructure build-out needs connected to intermodal freight rail centers, including a study of:
   - the City of Clovis' experience as a freight rail throughpoint;
   - the anticipated short- and long-term infrastructure needs in Santa Teresa; and
   - the potential needs and benefits of a proposed intermodal freight rail center in McKinley County;

(c) the feasibility of retaining passenger rail service along Amtrak's Southwest Chief line between Albuquerque and the New Mexico-Colorado border, including review of:
   - an engineering report from the DOT on the costs of rebuilding, and possible purchase, of the line in New Mexico;
   - an economic cost-benefit analysis from the DOT regarding the economic impact of retaining or losing this service; and
   - a legal analysis of how the state may participate in a multi-party agreement to fund continued Southwest Chief service in northern New Mexico;

(d) how the general aging of New Mexico's population is changing
transportation demands;

(e) technological advances such as "smart" traffic systems to decrease congestion and commuter times; and

(f) the condition of New Mexico's general aviation airports;

(2) options for transportation infrastructure funding and financing, including:

(a) dedication of certain fuel tax and other "user fee" receipts to road maintenance and construction programs;

(b) methods implemented by other states to raise user fee revenues;

(c) use of severance tax bond revenue for transportation and other public infrastructure;

(d) local government apportionments from fuel tax receipts;

(e) public-private partnership financing mechanisms;

(f) New Mexico's weight distance fees; and

(g) industry-government cost-sharing agreements; and

(3) any congressional action to address the shortfall in the federal Highway Trust Fund and the ramifications for New Mexico.

**Other Committees**

Certain interim legislative committees meet only when a topic or situation arises within their purview, such as the Interim Legislative Ethics Committee, which did not meet during the current biennium, and the Committee on Compacts, which did meet and is reviewed earlier in this section.
APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES
In addition to interim committee work, members of the legislature served by appointment on committees and task forces of organizations such as the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the Council of State Governments and the Energy Council. Although these are important assignments for the members serving on these bodies, the appointments are too numerous for inclusion in this report. A complete list of these appointments is available in the LCS library.

### Capitol Buildings Planning Commission

**2013, 2014**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CBPC Membership 2013</th>
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<td>Sen. Stuart Ingle, Roswell</td>
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<td>Sen. Mary Kay Papen, Las Cruces</td>
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<td>Sec. Veronica N. Gonzales</td>
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<td>State Treasurer James B. Lewis</td>
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<td>Chief Justice Petra Jimenez Maes</td>
<td>Commissioner Ray Powell</td>
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<td>Commissioner Ray Powell</td>
<td>Chief Justice Barbara J. Vigil</td>
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<td><strong>Designees</strong></td>
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<td>Muffet Foy Cuddy</td>
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<td>Lisa Sullivan</td>
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<td>Raúl E. Burciaga</td>
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<td>Cassandra Jones</td>
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The Capitol Buildings Planning Commission is an intergovernmental agency that was created in 1997 to conduct long-range facilities master plans for all state agencies in Santa Fe. Over the years, its master planning jurisdiction has been expanded to include the major metropolitan areas of New Mexico and an inventory of all state facilities for the development of a statewide master plan, pursuant to Section 15-10-1 NMSA 1978. Since its inception, the commission has developed metropolitan area master plans, endorsed legislation to study and finance the construction of state government facilities...
and developed guidance materials for the review process of lease-purchase financing agreements. The commission works with the General Services Department and other state agencies in developing recommendations for addressing deferred maintenance on state facilities and disposal strategies for aging facilities no longer able to serve their mission. Using life-cycle costing, the commission works with the General Services Department in developing recommendations on whether the state should lease, lease-purchase or purchase needed additional facilities.

The commission consists of four members of the legislature, two from each house, appointed by the New Mexico Legislative Council, and the following public officials, each of whom may appoint a designee to serve in place of the official:

1. the secretary of general services;
2. the state treasurer;
3. the secretary of transportation;
4. the secretary of cultural affairs;
5. the secretary of finance and administration;
6. the chair of the supreme court building commission; and
7. the commissioner of public lands.

The commission publishes a detailed annual report of its work that may be found on the legislature's web site at www.nmlegis.gov.

### Commission on Uniform State Laws

**2013, 2014**

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<tr>
<th>NMCUSL Membership 2013</th>
<th>NMCUSL Membership 2014</th>
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<td>Raymond G. Sanchez</td>
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Chapter 2, Article 4 NMSA 1978 provides for the creation of a "commission for the promotion of uniformity of legislation in the United States", whose purpose is to confer with commissioners from other states concerning uniform laws. The Commission on Uniform State Laws is the national
organization to which New Mexico's commissioners belong. The director of the LCS and the dean of the UNM School of Law are ex-officio members.

**Education Commission of the States**

2013, 2014

New Mexico became a member of the Educational Commission of the States in 1967 when it entered into the Compact for Education. As enumerated in Section 11-8-5 NMSA 1978, the commission, now known as the Education Commission of the States, has the authority to:

"A. collect, correlate, analyze and interpret information and data concerning educational needs and resources;

B. encourage and foster research in all aspects of education, but with special reference to the desirable scope of instruction, organization, administration, and instructional methods and standards employed or suitable for employment in public educational systems;

C. develop proposals for adequate financing of education as a whole and at each of its many levels;

D. conduct or participate in research of the types referred to in this article in any instance where the commission finds that such research is necessary for the advancement of the purposes and policies of this compact, utilizing fully the resources of national associations, regional compact organizations for higher education and other agencies and institutions, both public and private;

E. formulate suggested policies and plans for the improvement of public education as a whole, or for any segment thereof, and make recommendations with respect thereto available to the appropriate governmental units, agencies and public officials;

F. do such other things as may be necessary or incidental to the administration of any of its authority or functions pursuant to this compact".

**Lottery Scholarship Fund Work Group**

2013

Legislators were appointed by the New Mexico Legislative Council on June 18, 2013 to serve on the
Lottery Scholarship Fund Work Group, which met during the 2013 interim to discuss ways to keep the fund solvent.
THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE
The Legislative Council Service

Duties

The LCS is the staff agency created by law to serve all legislators. Among the major services it provides are:

- bill drafting;
- research and preparation of information memoranda;
- preparation of other memoranda, including policy analyses and arguments for and against specified legislation;
- bill indexing;
- production of publications on legislative actions;
- daily bill location and cumulative action;
- reference and spot research;
- library services, including maintenance of the legislative research library;
- bookkeeping and accounting for the legislature, including the permanent house and senate chief clerks' offices and the leadership staff;
- staffing, research and drafting for interim committees;
- certain joint housekeeping functions for the house and senate;
- preparation of major research studies;
- printing services; and
- IT and support.

The LCS is, in effect, the drafting agency for the state. In addition to work drafted at the request of individual legislators, the LCS assists legislative committees and the executive and judicial branches with preparation of their bill drafts. By law, all requests are confidential unless released by the person making the request. Projects requiring a great amount of staff time must be requested through and approved by the New Mexico Legislative Council.

The LCS updates and issues many publications for use by legislators and the general public both during legislative sessions and during interims. These publications are available in hard copy from the LCS library, as well as in electronic form via the legislature's web site. A list of all LCS publications may be found under the Publications subheading below.

Section 2-3-8 NMSA 1978 sets forth the duties of the LCS as follows:

"A. to assist the legislature of the state of New Mexico in the proper performance of its constitutional functions by providing its members with impartial and accurate information and reports concerning the legislative problems which come before them; and by providing digests showing the practices of other states and foreign nations in dealing with similar problems;
B. when so requested, to secure information for and to report to
the legislators of this state on the social and economic effects of statutes of
this state or elsewhere by cooperating with the legislative service agencies in
other states and other reference agencies and libraries;

C. to furnish to the members of the legislature of this state the
assistance of expert draftsmen, qualified to aid the legislators in the
preparation of bills for introduction into the legislature;

D. to recommend to the legislature measures which will improve
the form and working of the statutes of this state, and clarify and reconcile
their provisions;

E. to provide for the legislature adequate staff facilities and to
provide the adequate expert assistance without which no legislature can
properly perform its required functions; and

F. to prepare and index for printing as promptly as possible after
the adjournment of each session the session laws therefor, which compilation
shall include all resolutions and acts which the legislature has adopted or
passed during the session, and have received the approval of the governor
when such approval is necessary”.

Policies

The prime concern of the LCS remains in the field of assistance to legislators, particularly in bill
drafting and in the compiling of data and memoranda.

The LCS is headed by a director who is hired by and responsible to the New Mexico Legislative
Council. The staff of the LCS comprises such personnel as the director deems necessary. Because of
the impartial and technical nature of the work of the LCS, employees are hired without regard to
political party affiliation, and they refrain from participating in partisan politics.

The law permits the director to hire temporary personnel to handle the extra workload of
legislative sessions. The LCS hires additional receptionists, proofreaders, word processors, capital
outlay drafters, bill historians, bill clerks, billroom and mailroom clerks, central telephone operators and
print service operators during each session. The LCS may also contract with experts to provide drafting
services during the session.

Staff — as of June 30, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zelda Abeita</td>
<td>Receptionist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Anaya</td>
<td>Print Service Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caela Baker</td>
<td>Staff Attorney I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon S. Ball</td>
<td>Researcher III</td>
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</table>
Staff Changes — July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014

Additions

In 2012
Monica Ewing was hired as a staff attorney I on December 12, 2012.
Leonard Granados was hired as a print service operator I on August 18, 2012.
Teresa Ryan was hired as a staff attorney I on December 12, 2012.

In 2013
Caela Baker was hired as a staff attorney I on September 30, 2013.
Amy Chavez-Romero was hired as assistant director for drafting services on June 3, 2013.
Mark Edwards was hired as a bill drafter II on September 16, 2013.
Catherine Sayler was hired as a proofreader I on June 3, 2013.
Alexandria Tapia was hired as a research assistant I on June 24, 2013.

In 2014
Michelle Jaschke was hired as a researcher I on May 5, 2014.

Promotions

In 2012
Seth Morris was promoted to computer specialist II on December 8, 2012.

In 2013
Jon Boller was promoted to senior staff attorney on June 8, 2013.
Frederic Gaudet was promoted to researcher II on February 2, 2013.
Peter Kovnat was promoted to staff attorney II on June 8, 2013.
Pam Stokes was promoted to staff attorney II on June 8, 2013.

In 2014
Douglas Carver was promoted to staff attorney II on May 24, 2014.
Jeret Fleetwood was promoted to researcher I on May 24, 2014.
Lisa Sullivan was promoted to staff attorney II on May 24, 2014.

Resignations and Retirements

In 2012
Roxanna M. Knight retired from her position as a researcher III on November 30, 2012.
Fernando Martinez resigned from his position as a print service operator II on August 14, 2012.
Leslie Porter resigned from her position as a research assistant II on August 10, 2012.
Pamela Ray retired from her position as a staff attorney III on December 31, 2012.

In 2013
Doris Faust resigned from her position as assistant director/drafting on April 30, 2013.
Cassandra Jones resigned from her position as a research assistant I and transferred to the Public School Facilities Authority on December 6, 2013.
Maha Khoury resigned from her position as a staff attorney II on March 21, 2013.
Damian Lara resigned from his position as a staff attorney II on June 15, 2013.
Tom Pollard retired from his position as research and fiscal policy analyst on April 19, 2013.

Elizabeth Shaw resigned from her position as a research assistant I on July 24, 2013.

In 2014

Claudia Armijo resigned from her position as a staff attorney I and transferred to the Public Employees Retirement Association on May 23, 2014.

Alexandria Tapia resigned from her position as a research assistant I on April 25, 2014.

Special Notes

When Roxanne Knight retired in 2012, LCS employees lost their most trusted and accessible advisor on how to plan for retirement. Unlike her knowledge of so many other topics — courts, criminal justice, corrections, public safety, information technology and budgeting, all fields in which she worked for other state agencies — Roxanne's fluency in retirement details was self-taught. It served her well when the time finally arrived to sail — quite literally — into the sunset on the first of many cruises she planned for herself and her husband once her long career in public service ended. In addition to working for the LCS and the legislature, Roxanne's work for the state included serving as assistant to the secretary of corrections, assistant division director in the State Budget Office and deputy cabinet secretary for administration in the Department of Public Safety. With her departure, the LCS also lost the only employee in memory for whom a restaurant dish has been named: "Roxie's Frito Pie", on the menu at the tony Park South Hospitality establishment in New York City. No doubt, with her retirement so meticulously planned, Roxanne will be able to enjoy her namesake meal more often.

With Pam Ray's retirement in 2012, LCS employees who work far into the night during legislative sessions lost a calm reminder — in the form of a warm dog nose and a gently wagging tail — that there remains a pleasant world outside the Roundhouse even when chaos reigns inside. Pam's canine companions often graced her office once the public hours of each session day ended and the homework hours began, and no other drafter's bribe of treats could entice them to leave Pam's side as she worked. Her drafting spanned many topics over her 23 years with the LCS, including public assistance, welfare reform, DWI, gaming, state-tribal relations and taxation. In addition to drafting, she represented the LCS on the NCSL's Legal Services Staff Section for many years and earned its Staff Achievement Award in 2006. Pam's retirement gives her time to expand her volunteer work with the local Girl Scout council, for which she has served as a board member, and, perhaps, to return to her thrill-seeking days of whitewater rafting.

Tom Pollard's departure in 2013 left the LCS not only short of a fiscal policy analyst who could explain arcane economic issues in layman's terms, but also short of a scuba expert. Tom arrived in New Mexico after years working in finance positions in Texas state government, including as the founding executive director of the Texas Bond Review Board. He went on to serve a second time as a founding executive director, this time for the NMFA. Once he joined the LCS as the legislative fiscal analyst, he became a translator for the non-economically minded, whether legislators, staff or the general public. The economic indicators he tallied in the quarterly New Mexico Economic Summary during the recession

Thirty-First Biennial Report - New Mexico Legislative Council and Legislative Council Service

July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014
that began in 2008 went beyond the usual measures of gross domestic product and consumer price index. He often featured effects that the public could see in their own neighborhoods, such as closed car dealerships, inactive oil rigs and rural-to-urban demographic changes. Tom made no secret of his plans to retire on a beach, where his love for scuba diving could be indulged more easily than in the high desert.

Activities

A major function of the LCS is the drafting of legislation.

With the length of sessions set by the state constitution, the continuing use of the techniques developed over the years permits drafters to fulfill legislative requests expeditiously. The Legislative Drafting Manual facilitates the production process by answering most of those questions relating to form and style that plague those who prepare legislation. Wide use of the manual by private attorneys, state agency staff attorneys and employees of the legislature promotes uniformity in bill drafts and amendments and reduces errors.

The greatest aid to rapid and accurate bill production by the LCS is the process developed and followed in detail for each request. When a bill request is made of the LCS, it is logged by number, name of requester and subject matter, and a file is opened. An entry is also made that includes, in addition to the above information, the name of the drafter assigned to the project. When a drafter has completed a given assignment, the file is sent to the Proofreading Department for an initial proofing and review of format, style and citations. From there, the file is sent to the Word Processing Department, where the contents are entered into the LCS word processing system and printed in the form and style specified in the drafting manual.

After the bill is in its final form and has been through two additional rounds of proofreading and correction, it is transmitted to a bill clerk for duplicating, and the required number of copies are assembled and sent to the delivery drawer. Upon delivery, a notation is made on the file copy of the date and the names of the persons making and taking delivery of the bill. The above procedure is the minimum process given to each request.

The drafter, in preparing a bill for introduction, must thoroughly research the matter involved and may find it necessary to hold several conferences with the requester or to confer, internally and confidentially, with those best informed about the subject. Such work inevitably adds many hours or even days to the processing time.

In addition to bills, the LCS is also responsible for processing capital outlay project requests. During the first half of each regular session, the LCS capital outlay staff drafts project descriptions for introduction on the floor of the house and senate. Following the midpoint bill introduction deadline, the capital outlay staff drafts the capital outlay, reauthorization and, in certain years, general obligation bond bills based on final funding decisions. When deemed necessary by the legislature, the capital outlay staff also drafts bills to void appropriations from prior years and to change funding sources for ongoing projects. Capital outlay projects are reported through a separate locator system and are indexed by
Another vital function of the LCS is the research and preparation of information memoranda. Legislators may request a detailed and comprehensive summary of any information necessary to their deliberations. A memorandum may supply a single needed fact or an exhaustive survey of a field of interest. As with bill drafts, all memoranda are confidential, and not even the fact that they have been requested may be divulged to anyone, except upon permission of the requester.

Requests for other services performed by the LCS have been steadily increasing over the years. These include requests for information or services, other than bill drafts or information memoranda, that are of sufficient importance for separate files to be opened. The LCS staff produces non-campaign-related speeches; press releases; suggested language for house and senate certificates of congratulations or condolence; compilations of bill sponsorship for legislators; and answers to legislators' requests for information, such as information on the laws of other states, statistics, material from other agencies and other data.

In addition to handling approximately 7,300 information requests during the current biennium that required enough staff time to warrant a separate file, the LCS also received more than 16,000 additional information requests by telephone, email and in-person contact. The legislature's web site, which now handles a great number of information requests that were once handled by staff, received more than 8.5 million hits during the same period. Requests come from citizens, news media, legislative service agencies of other states, survey publications and private industry, as well as from legislators and state agencies. Questions cover a variety of subjects and include queries from students of all ages.

**Library**

The LCS library is an important resource in providing information for and about the legislative process. The library staff responds to requests from legislators and legislative staff members, governmental agencies and a wide array of members of the public in and outside of New Mexico.

Special print materials include a historical collection of New Mexico bills, house and senate journals, session laws and statute compilations. The library keeps a comprehensive database of state legislators from 1912 to the present, tracks significant internet resources and maintains a select collection of reports, online resources, periodicals and other material focusing on legislative issues.

The library staff prepares several LCS publications; issues daily and weekly alerts regarding online and digital resources on issues affecting New Mexico; and serves as liaison to the state publications program of the State Library.

**Publications**

The LCS publishes many annual reports and studies requested by the legislature, as well as other materials of importance to the legislature and the general public. Publications prepared during this biennium and available from the LCS include the following.
Beyond the Roundhouse: A Summary of Interim Legislative Committee Work
Biennial Report of the Legislative Council and Legislative Council Service 2010-2012
Constitutional Amendments Proposed by the Legislature in 2013 and 2014 — Brief Analysis and Arguments For and Against
Directory of Permanent Legislative Staff
Document Style Book, Legislative
Drafting Manual, Legislative
Economic Summary, New Mexico
— a quarterly review of economic trends and conditions in New Mexico and the nation
Ethics Guide, Legislative
Highlights
▸ of the Fifty-First Legislature, First Session, 2013
▸ of the Fifty-First Legislature, Second Session, 2014
— a summary of legislation that passed and became law, as well as detailed information about the general appropriation act, special appropriations, revenue measures and capital outlay projects
Information Bulletins:
▸ Capital Outlay: A Primer
▸ Child Abuse Reporting System
▸ Continuing Drought and New Mexico's Response
▸ Drought, Heat Wave Have Broad Implications
▸ Supreme Court's Affordable Care Act Decision and Its Effect on New Mexicans
Inventory of Statutory Executive Boards and Commissions
Legislative Council Service — Who We Are, What We Do
Legislative Information System Three-Year Strategic Plan
Legisletter
— a biweekly calendar of interim committee meetings, locations and agenda items
New Mexico State Legislature
— a booklet explaining the legislature and how a bill becomes law, prepared for legislators to give to constituents
Organizational Chart of New Mexico State Government
Piecemeal Amendment of the Constitution of New Mexico, 1911-2014
Proofing Manual, Legislative
Reports of special studies conducted under the direction of the legislature
Style Manual, Legislative
The LCS also prepares the following print and electronic reference publications during or shortly following each session.

**Bill Locator**
- **Daily**
- **Semifinal**
- **Final**

— a cumulative record of all action on bills, memorials and resolutions, current through the previous day (during session) or through the governor's final action

**Bill Sponsorship List**
— a record of all legislation introduced by each member of the legislature (reference copy only)

**Capital Outlay Projects**
— lists of all capital outlay projects included for funding in the final capital outlay bill, by county and by agency

**Capital Outlay Requests**
— lists of all capital outlay requests sponsored and introduced during the session, by county and by agency

**Concordance**
— a list of all bills and proposed constitutional amendments that passed both houses, arranged numerically by chapter to bill and bill to chapter

**Conflicts List**
- **Weekly**
- **Final**

— a list of all bills that propose to amend, repeal, compile, recompile or make other changes to the same section of law

**Directory of Legislative Offices**

**Index to Bills, Memorials, Resolutions and Substitutes**
- **Fifty-First Legislature, First Session, 2013**
- **Fifty-First Legislature, Second Session, 2014**

— a multilevel, cross-referenced index of all introduced legislation, including proposed tables of changes to the NMSA 1978 and enacted changes to names of entities, funds, acts and other statutory terms

**Journal of the House and Journal of the Senate**
— records of the proceedings of the house and senate prepared by each chamber and formatted for publication by the LCS

**Legislative Handbook**
— a handbook that includes house and senate rules; various committee and
legislator information lists, including standing committees, committee assignments by committees and members, legislators' occupations, seniority lists, floor seating charts and preceding interim committee lists; parliamentary procedure information; information on current public officials; maps of congressional, Public Regulation Commission, judicial and Public Education Commission districts; information on executive departments, district judges, district attorneys and Public Education Commission members; lists of county offices; classification of counties; the official decennial census population of the state, counties and municipalities; a history of political control of legislative sessions; a list of legislative leaders since statehood; a list of governors and lieutenant governors and their terms; a list of female legislators since statehood; and the legislative staff code of conduct

Subject Index to Bills, Memorials and Resolutions
  ▶ Weekly
  ▶ Semifinal
  ▶ Final
  — a multilevel cross-referenced index of all subjects covered by introduced bills, memorials and resolutions

Table of Changes
  ▶ Proposed (weekly)
  ▶ Final
  — a list of all substantive sections of law being amended, repealed, compiled or recompiled by bill (proposed) or chapter (final)

Voting Record
  — roll call votes on final passage in the house and senate

The LCS produces numerous lists and documents for the legislature and the public that pertain to interim committee work, including interim committee lists, which are updated as necessary; interim committee reports; unofficial elections candidates lists; and lists of legislators' names, addresses and phone numbers, also updated as necessary.

Legislative Information System

Supporting and developing projects in the legislative information system (LIS) is an ongoing function of the IT staff at the LCS. With continual user support and system maintenance, the IT staff has been able to enhance both the network infrastructure and quality of service. Major IT projects during the 2012-2014 biennium include the following.

A. Wireless access.

The demand for wireless internet access grew significantly during the biennium, and additional access points were added to accommodate the wireless user community, including the public, legislators and
staff. An increasing number of visitors to the State Capitol access the wireless system using their own devices, though they also have access to wireless kiosks on the third floor of the capitol. The kiosks, which run on an Android-based operating system, provide guest users the ability to conduct research and look at their personal email.

B. Network infrastructure.
Major improvements made to the network infrastructure include the installation of new switches and routers that provide higher data throughput and improve the manageability, reliability and efficiency of the entire system. A new core switch was installed and configured to support a 10 gigabyte network in the datacenter. Network fiber was upgraded in the fall of 2012 to support the infrastructure and other intermediate distribution frames on other floors in the building in support of a 10 gigabyte framework.

C. Legislative web site.
Enhancing the legislature's web site has been an ongoing project, with constant data updates and the addition of features to make a more user-friendly environment for the public and internal users. A keyword search engine was added to assist users in narrowing information in their searches and efficiently accessing data. The LCS continues to use Twitter as the primary notification tool for legislative web site users, and webcasting of interim committee meetings held at the capitol is also available on the web site. Maps and general information relating to redistricting remains on the web site following the special redistricting session held in 2011, allowing users to access information about their districts and legislators. A survey is currently under way to determine what features and functions web site users would like to see incorporated into the site, including design changes. A third-party web consulting company has been hired to assist with the survey.

D. Servers.
Servers are constantly being upgraded with increased disk storage and memory to keep up with the high demand for data and processes. The life cycle for all servers in the system is four to five years, and nearly half of the servers were due for replacement with more efficient and reliable equipment during this biennium. Most of the servers in the system are clustered, providing a redundancy that is essential to maintaining uptime throughout the network and providing high availability and scalability of services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Through virtualization, the LIS staff has reduced the number of physical servers from 16 to four, with the option to virtualize even further. The storage area network, where all data resides, has increased in data capacity from six terabytes to eight terabytes.

E. Backup system.
The network backup system was designed and implemented to keep the legislature's daily operations running efficiently and to ensure quick data recovery and management. All data from all servers are backed up nightly to disk and, from there, backed up to the cloud to a data center located in a separate power grid and location — a reliable process that ensures data integrity. A new backup system was implemented that eliminates the need to keep expensive backup tapes and restore procedures. This has improved reliability and given the end user the option to recover files using shadow copies that are kept...
locally on disk.

F. Internet connection.
The internet connection system at the legislature was initially constructed of two separate T-1 frame relay connections, a system designed to provide redundancy to support the business needs of the legislature, employees and other users. With the increasing demand for bandwidth, the internet connection was upgraded to an OC3 connection, and a metro ethernet connection was implemented in the fall of 2012 to accommodate the user community, both public and private.

G. Webcasting.
Video and audio webcasting of floor sessions and standing committee hearings during legislative sessions has been available on the legislature's web site for several years. Since this feature was first added, better quality cameras have been installed and a number of encoder revisions have been configured to accommodate the webcasting community, including enhancements such as agendas for committee hearings and photos of legislators on each committee. Both the house and senate have committed to further improvements as webcasting becomes increasingly popular.

H. Network system.
Approximately one-third of the network system devices will soon be due for replacement with more secure and redundant ones. All anti-spam devices were replaced during the biennium with more efficient and robust devices, establishing a more secure communication between the internal network and external users. An improved content filtering system is being set up to effectively eliminate system vulnerabilities, considering the amount of traffic on the network and the malware that exists from various web sites. A monitoring system has been implemented to address downtime issues with network devices and to inform LIS staff about any potential problems that users may encounter.

I. Software.
Most software applications used by staff members and legislators were upgraded to the most current versions. In addition, client system updates and patches were installed, and the anti-virus/anti-spyware program will be replaced in the coming fiscal year to achieve greater manageability and security.

J. Desktops.
The legislature consists of a mixed environment of laptops, desktop towers and tablets. A pilot project, or "proof of concept", consisting of a virtual desktop using vmware technology and a zero client to replace the traditional desktop tower or laptop has been introduced in the house of representatives and will be in full production for the 2015 legislative session. This project will minimize costs and maintenance and will give the user a desktop experience that maximizes accessibility of applications and peripherals while maintaining the critical aspect of physical security and data on each desktop.

K. Security.
With security concerns in mind, a third-party entity conducted a network assessment that provided the IT staff with information on potential vulnerabilities and ways to secure the internal network infrastructure. Since then, an intrusion detection system and other security measures were added to the
legislature's security plan. The LIS has been more actively involved with network traffic and logs to assist with any potential intrusions from the outside.

In addition to these projects and others that are included in the 2012-2014 strategic plan, support and service continue to be top priorities, and these are provided by a combination of in-house staff, local vendors and consultants.

**Legislative Printing Services**

Most legislative branch publications are produced by Legislative Printing Services in the LCS, a complete printing and binding facility that is housed on the third floor of the capitol and accessible to all legislators and legislative staff members. The Legislative Printing Services staff is responsible for a variety of duties, including large, professional duplicating jobs, printing services for all of the legislative agencies, logistical support for committees and, during special sessions, printing of all bills, memorials and resolutions. During regular sessions, Legislative Printing Services operates in shifts and brings in temporary employees to assist its three permanent staff members.

**Bill Room Complex**

During regular sessions, the Bill Room complex is maintained by the LCS staff. Here, introduced bills are received in quantity from the State Printing Office or Legislative Printing Services and are distributed as rapidly as possible upon written request to:

A. each member of the house and senate;
B. each county clerk, district judge, radio and television station, newspaper and general library of each state-supported institution of higher learning;
C. each state department, commission, board, institution or agency; each elected state official; each incorporated municipality; each district attorney; each ex-governor; each member of the New Mexico congressional delegation; and each public school district in the state;
D. any person who pays the amount specified by law; and
E. each of not more than two other addresses that may be specified by each member of the legislature as recipients for the member's district (applicable only to 60-day sessions).

The Bill Room also serves as one of the nerve centers of communication during a session. It contains mail and message boxes for each legislator. Thousands of pieces of mail are sorted and processed for delivery to legislators and staff members. The Bill Locator, daily calendars and other informational materials are all available here. The legislative switchboard and message center, located near the Bill Room complex, is staffed by highly qualified operators. Even during the haste and urgency of the next-to-last legislative day, the LCS, together with the Bill Room complex, keeps materials, information and messages flowing smoothly.
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
CAPITOL ART FOUNDATION
AND
TOURIST INFORMATION SERVICES
Buildings and Grounds

By law, the care, custody and maintenance of the State Capitol, Capitol North annex and surrounding grounds are vested in the New Mexico Legislative Council. The director of the LCS is responsible for all matters pertaining to these buildings and grounds and is also, by policy, responsible for the care, custody, control and maintenance of the recently constructed State Capitol parking facility.

Under the supervision of the building superintendent, crews of custodians, electricians, plumbers, mechanics, carpenters and painters perform the routine functions of maintenance and custodial services for the complex. Normal maintenance systems have been established to reduce major repairs and ensure operation of all equipment at maximum efficiency.

Landscaping improvements have continued with the replacement and addition of more shrubs, trees and flowers. The landscape of the State Capitol was designed to conserve water and to reduce the hours of staff time necessary to maintain the well-groomed areas.

The New Mexico Legislative Council is responsible for the security at the State Capitol, including limited access to parking facilities, permit parking and a security force under the LCS that is enhanced during each legislative session.

Capitol North

Legislative Building Services continues to be responsible for the maintenance and custodial work at the Capitol North annex, the first three-branch building in the state. It provides offices for the LESC, LFC, secretary of state and Administrative Office of the Courts, as well as some legislative offices for members of the house.

Capitol Art Foundation

The Capitol Art Foundation was created in 1992 in response to senate and house memorials passed by the legislature requesting the LCS and the Capitol Art Selection Committee to establish a nonprofit foundation to assist in the acquisition of art for display in the State Capitol. The New Mexico Legislative Council approves the membership of the foundation based on recommendations from the foundation board.

The mission of the Capitol Art Foundation is to collect, preserve, display and interpret works of art by New Mexico artists and other relevant works of art that reflect the rich and varied history, cultures and art forms of the state. The foundation also promotes public appreciation and understanding of the art, history and culture of New Mexico by displaying art and artifacts of historical or cultural significance in temporary exhibitions at the State Capitol. The foundation, which is composed of art professionals from around the state, is committed to public education programs that address the needs of a diverse audience, and it seeks to promote goodwill and understanding through its programs.
Beginning in 1993, the foundation developed and continues to update and implement a five-year plan that addresses all aspects of the foundation's large mission and day-to-day operation and keeps the interests of visitors foremost at all times.

The capitol art collection was established with the purchase of 14 works of art and 17 art furniture groupings, using funds set aside during renovation of the State Capitol for the purchase of art pursuant to the Art in Public Places Act. Subsequent acquisitions of art for the collection have been purchased with proceeds from fundraising activities and charitable donations to the foundation. Funds are needed for framing, securing installations (to protect the works from damage and theft), routine maintenance, occasional conservation and restoration, associated administrative costs and the development and publication of educational materials to accompany the art, which is installed permanently in public areas of the State Capitol.

As the central mission of the Capitol Art Foundation, acquiring art for the collection is an ongoing project. The executive director/curator works with arts organizations, artists and art collectors throughout the state and region and the appropriate committees of the foundation to identify suitable works of art for the collection. Once a work of art is acquired, through purchase or gift, suitable framing or other preparation and installation occurs as soon as possible in fulfillment of the foundation's mission and its responsibilities to donors. The many thousands of people who visit the State Capitol each year see, under one roof, a collection of art that reflects the wide aesthetic, cultural and technical diversity and virtuosity that is New Mexico art.

The missions of the Capitol Art Foundation and New Mexico's art and folk art museums, while different, are complementary. Recognizing that New Mexico's art organizations can most benefit one another and the public by cooperating and sharing resources, many New Mexico museum professionals serve on the foundation's board of directors and on its various committees. Several projects and programs have been jointly developed by the foundation and other arts organizations. The foundation, with its unique and highly visible mission, and the capitol art collection have become welcome additions to New Mexico's arts community.

**Tourist Information Services**

Tens of thousands of visitors tour the State Capitol each year to see the capitol art collection, the building's unique architecture and the expansive and diverse landscaping. Tourist information services, which are an important part of the duties of the LCS, are provided by full-time and part-time employees and, during the peak summer tourist season, by college students hired as seasonal guides.

Basic tours are given for such varied groups as senior citizens, students, art collectors, architects and foreign dignitaries. The spring season is a particularly active time for students from throughout New Mexico to tour the State Capitol. The tour is the first view of state government in action for the
majority of these students. Others who tour the State Capitol come from throughout the United States and the world, including numerous visitors from Canada, Germany, France, China and Russia. Specialty tours are conducted for visiting foreign dignitaries, and publications about the State Capitol are available in both English and Spanish. Visitor tours include the rotunda, with its mosaic great seal; galleries of the house and senate; offices of the legislators; committee rooms; the permanent art collection; the governor's gallery; reception areas of the governor, lieutenant governor and secretary of state; and discussions of the symbolism of the building, the Zia sun symbol and other symbols of New Mexico.

The information and tour director and the tour guides research New Mexico's prime legislative issues, cultures and current affairs, Native American history and the five state capitol buildings that have housed the legislature in order to be well-versed in the history of the state and the operation of its government. In addition, they research New Mexican art traditions and tour New Mexico state museum art exhibits in order to provide comprehensive information about the capitol art collection. Tourist Information Services staff members field questions daily about state, city, county and federal departments, agencies and programs through phone, email and written requests, as well as in person at the reception counter located in the east ground-floor lobby.
APPENDIX
### STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES
of the
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE

Year Ending June 30, 2013

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STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES
of the
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE

Year Ending June 30, 2014

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