# CONTENTS

## OVERVIEW

The 2016-2018 Biennium in Brief

- Interims ................................................................................................................................. 3
- Sessions ................................................................................................................................. 5

## THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**Membership** .......................................................................................................................... 11

**Historical Background** ........................................................................................................ 13

**Duties** .................................................................................................................................. 13

**Policy Changes** ..................................................................................................................... 15

### Interim Committees

#### Permanent

- Legislative Education Study Committee ................................................................................. 19
- Legislative Finance Committee ............................................................................................ 20

#### Statutory and New Mexico Legislative Council-Created

- Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee ......................................................................... 25
- Economic and Rural Development Committee .................................................................... 28
- Indian Affairs Committee ..................................................................................................... 32
- Interim Legislative Ethics Committee ................................................................................... 36
- Investments and Pensions Oversight Committee ................................................................. 37
- Land Grant Committee .......................................................................................................... 40
- Legislative Health and Human Services Committee ............................................................ 44
- Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee ............................................................................ 52
- Mortgage Finance Authority Act Oversight Committee ....................................................... 54
- New Mexico Finance Authority Oversight Committee ......................................................... 55
- Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee ............................................................... 57
- Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee ................................................................. 59
- Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee ................................................. 61
- Tobacco Settlement Revenue Oversight Committee .............................................................. 64
- Water and Natural Resources Committee ............................................................................. 64

### Subcommittees, Task Forces and Special Interim Bodies

- Behavioral Health Subcommittee .............................................................................................. 71
- Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee ................................................................................... 71
- Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee ....................................................................................... 72
- Public School Capital Outlay Oversight Task Force ................................................................. 72
- Senate Rules Committee .......................................................................................................... 75
- Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee ............................................................ 75

### Appointments to Other Bodies

- Capitol Buildings Planning Commission ............................................................................ 81
- Commission on Uniform State Laws ..................................................................................... 82
- Education Commission of the States .................................................................................... 82
- Additional Appointments ........................................................................................................ 83

## THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE

**Duties** .................................................................................................................................. 87

**Policies** ................................................................................................................................. 88

**Staff** .................................................................................................................................... 88

**Staff Changes** ...................................................................................................................... 90

**Activities** .............................................................................................................................. 92

**Library** ................................................................................................................................ 93

**Publications** .......................................................................................................................... 94
Legislative Information System ................................................................................................................. 97
Legislative Printing Services ......................................................................................................................... 99
Joint Mail Room and Bill Room ..................................................................................................................... 99

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, CAPITOL ART FOUNDATION AND INFORMATION AND TOUR SERVICES

Buildings and Grounds ................................................................................................................................. 103
Capitol Art Foundation ................................................................................................................................. 103
Information and Tour Services .................................................................................................................. 104

APPENDIX

Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures of the Legislative Council Service
   Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017 and Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018 .................................................. 109
Legislative Council Policy 5 revisions ........................................................................................................... 110
Anti-Harassment Policy 2018 ......................................................................................................................... 111
New Mexico Legislative Staff Code of Conduct 2018 .............................................................................. 116
Overview
The 2016-2018 Biennium in Brief

During the course of the 2016-2018 biennium, the legislature convened for two regular sessions and two special sessions, and legislators served on 51 interim committees, subcommittees, task forces and other working bodies. As happened two years prior, control of the house of representatives once again changed with the 2016 election, this time from Republican to Democrat. As a result, nearly all interim bodies reverted to single-party control after two years of bipartisan control. No new special-topic bodies were created for the biennium, and some that convened during the previous biennium were discontinued, including the Capitol Security Subcommittee, the House Special Investigatory Committee, the Jobs Council and the Jobs Council Subcommittee. The Behavioral Health Subcommittee (BHS) and the Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee (DCS) — both subcommittees of the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee (LHHS) — did not plan to convene during the 2018 interim; rather, their areas of concern would be addressed by the committee as a whole.

Interims

It can be a good thing to have three branches in government; when two are at loggerheads, each can plead its case to the third.

During the 2016-2018 biennium, relations between the New Mexico legislative and executive branches dipped to such a low that the judicial branch was called upon to settle multiple disputes. The legislature's 2017 interim work got a delayed start when the governor line-item vetoed essentially all fiscal year (FY) 2018 funding for legislative and higher education operations in the budget bill, and the New Mexico Legislative Council filed suit over the vetoes. The council's argument hinged on separation of powers and executive branch overreach; the New Mexico Supreme Court's decision not to hear the case hinged on a pending special session that could resolve the matter without judicial involvement. The special session convened, funding was restored and the dust from that battle cleared, though not without consequence. Faced with budget uncertainty just as high school seniors were making college choices, many of the state's higher education institutions saw a dip in enrollment for the coming academic year, and some resorted to raising tuition rates. In addition, a year after speaking out against the governor's vetoes, the chancellor of New Mexico State University (NMSU) was out of a job when the university's governor-appointed board of regents did not renew his contract.

Another legal battle continued throughout 2017 and well into 2018 — the council's suit contending that 10 vetoed bills from the 2017 regular session became law without signature for lack of constitutionally required veto messages. By the time the supreme court unanimously ruled in favor of the council's argument, nearly a year had passed as the matter worked its way through the courts.

With the legislature's funding in question and multiple lawsuits pending, the already-edgy tone to the 2017 interim became decidedly edgier as a national wave of sexual assault and harassment allegations broke coast to coast. The New Mexico Legislature was not spared. Late in 2017, a lobbyist went public with allegations that a former legislator had demanded sex in exchange for his "Yes" vote on a bill she supported and that when she refused, his "No" vote killed the measure. Under a barrage of criticism over its current anti-harassment policy, including criticism from female legislators who found it weak in several areas, the legislature convened a bipartisan group to update the policy with stronger
protections for accusers and a more rigorous investigation process, including consultation with independent counsel.

A mere four months later, just as the 2018 interim began, the new anti-harassment policy was put to its first test when another lobbyist brought a harassment complaint against a sitting legislator. Shortly after the complaint was made public, the legislator was unseated in his primary election by a challenger who highlighted the allegations in her campaign, a chain of events that begged a question not specifically addressed in the new policy: Does an investigation into a harassment complaint continue if the accused legislator will not be returning to the legislature? As the biennium ended, the investigation into the lobbyist's complaint was still under way.

An earlier investigation into another legislator's behavior came to a close during the biennium when former Senator Phil A. Griego, after resigning from his seat in the legislature, was found guilty of public corruption and sentenced to 18 months in prison. This episode, coming after several other convictions of public officials in the previous two decades, gave a boost to efforts for ethics reform. Proponents of creating an ethics commission saw their proposal gain enough traction to place a proposed constitutional amendment establishing such a commission on the 2018 general election ballot. Proponents of establishing a salary for legislators saw their argument given increased credence, with a majority of respondents in one poll saying that they felt a salary would decrease the possibility of corruption among legislators and bring more diversity to the Roundhouse.

Despite the backdrop of lawsuits, scandals, delays and election campaigns, legislators addressed many critical issues in their interim work. As in the previous biennium, the state's fiscal status — improving in some respects and worsening in others — continued to be a primary focus for several interim legislative bodies. State revenues rebounded somewhat during the biennium, due mostly to increased oil and gas production in the southeastern part of the state. Nonetheless, the state's overall economic recovery and job prospects remained in low gear compared to surrounding states. Committees heard presentations on programs aimed at retaining New Mexico's educated and trained workforce in the face of better prospects over the state line. Those employed in or retired from the public sector saw their retirement systems make headlines in 2018 when Moody's Investors Service cited large unfunded pension liabilities as a factor in its decision to downgrade the state's bond ratings. By that time, committees had already heard several presentations on long-term sustainability problems in the retirement systems.

Tax reform was another prominent topic. To aid in understanding the fiscal impact of proposed changes to the state's tax system, the Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee contracted for the development of a tool that, in conjunction with other tools and measures, would assist legislative staff in assessing the overall effect on state revenue of any revisions made. The committee also discussed potential revenue for the state from the U.S. Supreme Court's decision allowing states to tax sales made by businesses without a physical presence in the state — sales made primarily over the internet.

Criminal justice reform discussions carried over from the previous biennium, as did discussions on the state's shortage of behavioral health services and the potential impact to the state's health care network following changes to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The 1999 Zuni lawsuit, which concerned public school capital outlay funding and was initially settled without proceeding to trial, reemerged as a current topic for the Public School Capital Outlay Oversight Task Force when a new complaint was brought under the suit. The matter did go to trial.
this time; in response, the task force endorsed a successful measure in the 2018 session that revised the funding formula for public school capital outlay. A separate lawsuit, this one concerning the constitutional sufficiency of public school operational funding, was awaiting a decision as the biennium ended.

The legislature's longest-serving member announced that he would not seek reelection in 2018. Representative Nick L. Salazar, from House District 40, was first elected in 1972 and subsequently reelected for 22 additional terms. The footprint of his district changed four times, beginning as a single-county district and expanding to five counties for much of his time in office, including communities on both sides of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. In addition to his longevity and institutional knowledge, he brought a touch of class to the house of representatives: in 46 years at the Roundhouse, he never appeared on the house floor without a red carnation on his lapel.

Behind the scenes, legislative staff celebrated an historic moment that went largely unnoticed by the public. December 2016 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Roundhouse, a building that was initially reviled by some for its un-capitol-like appearance but that eventually won over public opinion with its unique architecture, varied landscaping and world-class art collection. Staff from all of the legislative agencies hosted a thank-you lunch for Legislative Building Services crew members, whose hard work to keep the building and grounds in such lovely shape is always greatly appreciated.

**Sessions**

In order to understand any legislative session, it helps to understand New Mexico's legislative and fiscal calendars. One of the primary tasks when the legislature convenes in January is to develop a budget for the fiscal year that begins the following July. That rhythm was upset in 2017, however.

The story of the 2017 session, and the two special sessions that bookended it, began in 2015, as the legislature crafted the FY 2016 budget — one heavily dependent on oil and gas revenues. As oil and gas prices steadily declined and revenue failed to meet projections, it became clear that the state had not collected sufficient revenue to fund the FY 2016 budget. Worse still, FY 2017 revenue was proving to be inadequate to support that year's appropriations.

In late September 2016, the governor called lawmakers into a special session to address revenue shortfalls in both FY 2016 and FY 2017. The legislature obliged by sweeping unspent funds to cover FY 2016, and it began to address FY 2017 by cutting some appropriations and sweeping yet more unspent funds.

In a move that critics claimed was politically motivated, the governor also called on lawmakers to increase some criminal penalties and reinstate the death penalty, which the house voted to do but the senate did not.

The 2016 special session left a fair amount of the heavy lifting for FY 2017 to the incoming Fifty-Third Legislature. About a month after the 2016 special session concluded, an especially contentious general election campaign that was headlined by an even more contentious presidential race resulted in a change in political control in the house of representatives — from Republican to Democrat — and the defeat of the long-time senate majority floor leader.

Thus, the curtain lifted on the 2017 legislative session with new leadership in the house, a new majority floor leader in the senate and a fiscal year already halfway over that was in need of
solvency. Instead of easing into their new roles, leadership in both chambers hit the ground running, quickly facing fiscal and political challenges.

A little over a week into the session, the legislature passed a package of bills addressing FY 2017 solvency, again by identifying, sweeping and transferring nonrecurring money into the General Fund. The legislature had less success with what is one of the more routine tasks each year: passage of a bill to fund the session itself and the year-round operations of the legislature. That became a bone of contention as the governor insisted that the legislature cut more than it already had from its budget, foreshadowing an unprecedented showdown.

While most bills tend to pass both chambers in the final days of a session, a handful of noncontroversial measures usually reaches the governor's desk earlier. Because they are mostly noncontroversial and often enjoy overwhelming bipartisan support, governors typically sign these bills into law without much fanfare or protest. Not so in 2017. The governor vetoed 10 of these bills without explanation. The legislature's position was that each of those 10 bills became "law without signature" because the Constitution of New Mexico requires that a vetoed bill be returned to the legislature with the governor's objections.

After spending significant effort during the 2016 special session and the first week of the 2017 regular session fixing the budget for FY 2016 and FY 2017, the legislature approached the job of crafting the FY 2018 budget carefully. The legislature sent the governor a $6.1 billion budget along with a $350 million companion package of tax increases, crafted in such a way as to allow the governor to line-item veto those tax increases she could not support and leave intact those she could.

Instead, the governor vetoed the entire tax package and used her line-item veto power in a way that had never been used before, in any state: she struck about $770 million from the General Appropriation Act of 2017 by vetoing all funding for the legislative branch of government and all funding for higher education institutions.

The legislature's response, through the New Mexico Legislative Council, was to ask the New Mexico Supreme Court to declare those vetoes unconstitutional. The court, noting the governor had just called a special session for late May, declined to hear the case.

The May special session began with veto override attempts in both chambers, each of which fell short of the required number of votes. Within two days, bills had passed to restore the funding initially vetoed by the governor for the legislature and educational institutions, along with another tax package and a complex bond swap to shore up the General Fund. The governor signed the funding for higher education and the legislature but vetoed the tax package, leaving the budget barely balanced.

While budget concerns dominated the regular and two special sessions, other legislation did manage to pass, including a proposed constitutional amendment creating a state ethics commission.

As with any session, the legislature debated a number of high-profile bills that did not pass. One of those was an overhaul of the state's gross receipts tax, a measure that was considered in both the 2017 regular and special sessions.

For the most part, since 2010, the legislature and the governor had effectively been shouting at one another, pausing just long enough to (mostly) agree on those matters that absolutely required the state's attention. It is possible, then, that the 2018 legislative session offered a glimpse of how the landscape might have looked without the shouting. For her last legislative session, the governor struck a
more conciliatory tone with the legislature, and despite the occasional jab at one another, the two managed to get along.

At the same time, New Mexico joined the rest of the country in learning how to listen to an altogether different set of voices. Spurred, ironically, by the shouts of victims, industries ranging from entertainment to business to politics were forced to reexamine their cultures and how they treat harassment claims. Accounts from statehouses across the country revealed an atmosphere rife with harassment and policies that seemed inadequate to properly curtail it. In the month leading up to the 2018 session, a small group of New Mexico legislators and staff carefully crafted a new anti-harassment policy designed to shift the culture toward one more mindful of all voices. A major component of the new policy was its mandate of training for employees and members alike. Thus, the day before the session began, all members were required to attend anti-harassment training, prompting some members to quip that the 30-day session had actually become a 31-day session.

Once the gavel sounded on the session itself, the legislature quickly found itself with work to do. The deadline for New Mexico to sign on to a nursing compact that would allow nurses from New Mexico to practice in other states, and vice versa, loomed just days after the opening day of session. Rather than ease into their session work, members quickly got the nursing compact up to the governor within the first three days of the session. After a bit of discussion, the legislature managed to beat the deadline, and the nursing compact was signed by the governor.

With that out of the way, the next most important job confronting the legislature involved crafting a budget — the primary function of any 30-day session. Unlike the previous several years, when declining revenues forced the legislature to cut appropriations and look for one-time infusions of money from funds other than the General Fund, the legislature found itself with new money in 2018 — approximately $292 million, almost all due to increases in both oil prices and production. This allowed the legislature to either restore funding to accounts previously drawn down to make ends meet or devote much-needed additional funding to several areas, particularly to agencies focused on human life and public safety. In the end, the legislature passed a $6.2 billion budget that replenishes the state's General Fund reserves, provides an average two percent raise to state employees (with slightly larger raises going to teachers and certain public safety employees) and increases spending in several specific areas, including road infrastructure, broadband internet system enhancement and district attorneys' offices.

Another pressing matter for the legislature to address was a brine well underneath a portion of Carlsbad. While other brine wells have collapsed outside the city limits, a brine well in danger of collapse still exists underneath a part of the city that contains several businesses, two state highways and an inhabited trailer park, raising concerns about the possible threat to human life. Funding was identified as the solution for mitigating the threat, and with about a week to spare before time ran out on the session, members of both chambers agreed on a funding stream.

In response to rising crime rates across the state, the majority and minority stopped shouting and combined several bills into one crime package that took several approaches to address the issue, including behavioral health for incarcerated persons, salary increases for law enforcement officers and revised penalties for a number of offenses. The bill passed both houses with overwhelming support and was signed by the governor; however, her line-item vetoes in the bill — a bill that does not clearly
appropriate money as required by the Constitution of New Mexico — reignited some lingering questions about the governor's power to veto all or parts of such bills.

In addition to the crime package, the legislature increased funding to district attorneys' offices across the state. Notable among those offices was the Second Judicial District in Albuquerque, which saw a budget increase of almost 18 percent.

Rising oil prices and production also allowed the legislature to pass a relatively sizeable capital outlay package. While it was unable to meet the demand — $1.4 billion in capital outlay requests was submitted — the legislature was able to devote just over $300 million for critically needed infrastructure projects around the state.

In a sad nod to the brutal realities of school shootings, including one in Aztec in late 2017, the legislature passed a bill to allow public school capital outlay funding to improve school security systems.

Other high-profile measures that passed and were signed into law included bills to overhaul the state's guardianship system, provide more confidentiality to aerospace tenants at Spaceport America and standardize election dates and procedures for the conduct of most local elections, such as school, special district and municipal elections.

Some high-profile bills failed to pass, including a complex bill allowing Public Service Company of New Mexico to sell bonds to offset the costs of closing its coal-fired power plant in San Juan County and a bill that would have required license plates on both the front and back of a vehicle. In what has basically become an annual ritual, a proposed constitutional amendment that would have increased distributions from the Land Grant Permanent Fund to pay for early childhood education failed to pass.

Upon adjournment, the legislature considered approximately 600 bills, passing 111 of them. Of those, the governor signed 80. Also considered were 35 resolutions and joint resolutions and 295 memorials and joint memorials — numbers that have steadily risen in recent years.
THE
NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
The New Mexico Legislative Council  
2017, 2018

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<td>Rep. Brian Egolf, Co-Chair, Santa Fe</td>
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<td>Sen. Mary Kay Papen, Co-Chair, Las Cruces</td>
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<td>Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros, Questa</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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<td>Sen. Pete Campos, Las Vegas</td>
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<td>Sen. Pete Campos, Las Vegas</td>
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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 consisted 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 Capitol North annex.

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 appoint 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 Changes

Policies that were changed during the biennium include:

- Legislative Council Policy 5 regarding per diem and mileage, which was amended at the council meeting on June 5, 2017;
- a revised anti-harassment policy for legislators and legislative employees, which was distributed in January 2018; and
- a revised New Mexico Legislative Staff Code of Conduct, which was distributed in April 2018.

See the Appendix for the full text of these policies.
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. As a permanent interim committee, the LESC publishes a separate report of its work, findings and recommendations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LESC Membership</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>LESC Membership</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<td><strong>Voting</strong></td>
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<td>Sen. Mimi Stewart, Chair, Albuquerque</td>
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<td>Sen. William P. Soules, Las Cruces</td>
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| Advisory | | Advisory | |
| Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros, Questa | | Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros, Questa |
| Sen. Howie C. Morales, Silver City | | Sen. Howie C. Morales, Silver City |
| Sen. John Pinto, Gallup | | Sen. John Pinto, Gallup |
The Legislative Finance Committee (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
Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee
2017, 2018

The Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee (CCJ) was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on June 5, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018.

During the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to address the following and recommend appropriate legislation:

1. an update from the Corrections Department, including discussion of the status of efforts to reduce recidivism and improve public safety using the New Mexico Results First initiative; the department's budget, staffing and staff training; inmate housing; gender-specific policies and practices of the department; inmate health care; and other department programs and legislative priorities;

2. an update from the Department of Public Safety (DPS), including discussion of
sexual assault examination kit testing and related policies developed by law enforcement agencies; other forensic evidence testing backlog and related policies; and department staffing and legislative priorities;

3) an update from the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD), including discussion of juvenile justice and the school-to-prison pipeline; the use of isolated confinement and community corrections for juveniles; and department programs and legislative priorities;

4) the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) unified budget and court updates and legislative priorities;

5) an update from the Public Defender Department, including discussion of the department's legislative priorities;

6) an update from the Administrative Office of the District Attorneys and the office's legislative priorities;

7) an update from the New Mexico Association of Counties, including discussion of issues affecting county jails and the association's legislative priorities;

8) an update from the New Mexico Sentencing Commission, including a presentation of the commission's New Mexico Prison Population Forecast;

9) criminal justice reform, including the Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee's work on criminal justice reform issues and related legislation;

10) funding for sexual assault services and review of sexual-assault-related legislation;

11) domestic violence, including effects on children and programs for survivors and perpetrators and related funding;

12) the work of the state's Juvenile Justice Improvement Initiative Task Force;

13) human trafficking;

14) medical cannabis;

15) substance abuse, including drug decriminalization and legalization and substance abuse treatment;

16) parole, including release eligibility, "in-house" parole and community corrections and reentry programs;

17) Albuquerque Police Department reforms and crime rates and methods used for crime reduction in cities comparable to Albuquerque;

18) government accountability;

19) bail and pretrial detention system and information technology systems reforms;

20) regulation of towing service providers;

21) law enforcement eyewitness identification procedures;

22) a report from the Office of the State Auditor on its pay equity audit; and

23) legislation related to insurance risk and solvency assessments.

For the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to receive testimony on:

1) an update from the AOC, including discussion of:

   ☞ staffing and staff training, programs, unified budget, budget priorities and legislative priorities;

   ☞ court updates;
case management systems; and
♦ bail/pretrial detention and release issues;

(2) an update from the Corrections Department, including discussion of:
♦ the department's staffing and staff training, programs, budget, budget priorities and legislative priorities;
♦ inmate housing and facilities;
♦ probation and parole;
♦ inmate health care;
♦ the status of efforts to reduce recidivism and improve public safety using the New Mexico Results First initiative;
♦ gender-specific policies and practices of the department, including treatment of pregnant and lactating inmates;
♦ the use of isolated confinement;
♦ good-time policies; and
♦ the use of private prisons in New Mexico;

(3) an update from the DPS, including discussion of:
♦ the department's staffing and staff training, programs, budget, budget priorities and legislative priorities;
♦ forensic laboratory issues, including sexual assault examination kit testing and processing progress; and
♦ criminal justice clearinghouse project update;

(4) an update from the CYFD, including discussion of:
♦ the department's staffing and staff training, programs, budget, budget priorities and legislative priorities;
♦ juvenile justice and the school-to-prison pipeline; and
♦ the Protective Services Division;

(5) an update from the Public Defender Department, including discussion of:
♦ the department's staffing and staff training, programs, budget, budget priorities and legislative priorities; and
♦ changes in indigent defense policies;

(6) an update from the Administrative Office of the District Attorneys and the New Mexico District Attorney's Association, including discussion of:
♦ caseloads, staffing, budgets and budget priorities in each district; and
♦ legislative priorities;

(7) an update from the New Mexico Association of Counties, including discussion of:
♦ issues affecting county jails; and
♦ the association's legislative priorities;

(8) the 2018 New Mexico Prison Population Forecast from the New Mexico Sentencing Commission;
(9) reports on 2018 legislative memorial studies, including:
   ♦ House Joint Memorial 16, Criminal Justice and Public Safety Task Force;
   ♦ House Memorial 82, Encourage Pro Bono Legal Services;
   ♦ House Memorial 89/Senate Memorial 92, Services for Victims of Human Trafficking;
   ♦ House Memorial 106, Corrections Department Health Care System;
   ♦ Senate Bill 19, Uniform Guardianship & Other Arrangements; and
   ♦ Senate Memorial 98/House Memorial 104, Study Law Enforcement Body Camera Issues;

(10) sexual assault and violence, domestic violence and gun violence;
(11) consideration of elections and voting laws as they pertain to access to justice issues;
(12) a report on gender justice issues;
(13) data collection across law enforcement and public safety agencies and courts;
(14) discussion of a state ethics commission;
(15) a joint meeting with the LHHS, including discussion of issues implicating public health and the criminal justice system;
(16) discussion of possible amendments to Chapter 57, Article 16 NMSA 1978 in regard to motor vehicle dealers franchising; and
(17) legislation for committee consideration.

**Economic and Rural Development Committee**

*2017, 2018*

The Economic and Rural Development Committee was created for the current biennium by the New Mexico Legislative Council on June 5, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018.

During the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to explore and discuss major areas and specific issues affecting economic and rural development as follows:

(1) business development resources and state-supported strategies;
(2) workforce development and education, including:
   ♦ the importance of a mixed delivery early childhood development system; and
   ♦ developing vocational education;
(3) infrastructure, utilities and basic needs in New Mexico communities, including:
   ♦ broadband deployment in rural communities;
   ♦ energy infrastructure, including plans for future development and renewable energy;
   ♦ rural access to health care and health care industry employment; and
   ♦ building business infrastructure for rural grocery stores and retail or service businesses under the Local Economic Development Act or other government-sponsored initiatives;
### ERDC Membership 2017

**Voting**
- Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr., Chair, Pueblo of Jemez
- Rep. Debbie A. Rodella, Vice Chair, Española
- Sen. Jacob R. Candelaria, Albuquerque
- Rep. Rebecca Dow, Truth or Consequences
- Sen. Ron Griggs, Alamogordo
- Rep. Tim D. Lewis, Rio Rancho
- Rep. Rick Little, Chaparral
- Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom, Gallup
- Sen. Richard C. Martinez, Española
- Rep. Matthew McQueen, Santa Fe
- Sen. Michael Padilla, Albuquerque
- Sen. John Pinto, Gallup
- Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert, Corrales
- Rep. Nathan P. Small, Las Cruces
- Rep. Candie G. Sweetser, Deming
- Sen. Pat Woods, Broadview

**Advisory**
- Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon, Milan
- Rep. Gail Armstrong, Magdalena
- Rep. Alonzo Baldonado, Los Lunas
- Sen. Craig W. Brandt, Rio Rancho
- Sen. William F. Burt, Alamogordo
- Rep. George Dodge, Jr., Santa Rosa
- Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo, Belen
- Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary, Las Cruces
- Rep. David M. Gallegos, Eunice
- Rep. Bealquin Bill Gomez, La Mesa
- Rep. Yvette Herrell, Alamogordo
- Rep. D. Wonda Johnson, Church Rock
- Sen. Carroll H. Leavell, Jal
- Rep. Sarah Maestas Barnes, Albuquerque
- Rep. Rod Montoya, Farmington
- Sen. Mark Moores, Albuquerque
- Sen. Mary Kay Papen, Las Cruces
- Rep. William "Bill" Rehm, Albuquerque
- Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero, Albuquerque
- Rep. Angelica Rubio, Las Cruces
- Rep. Patricia Ruiloba, Albuquerque
- Rep. Nick L. Salazar, Ohkay Owingeh
- Sen. William E. Sharer, Farmington
- Rep. James E. Smith, Sandia Park
- Sen. Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics, Cerrillos
- Sen. Bill Tallman, Albuquerque
- Rep. Linda M. Trujillo, Santa Fe
- Rep. Bob Woolery, Roswell
- Rep. Monica Youngblood, Albuquerque

**Staff**
- Shawna Casebier
- Celia Ludi
- Rebecca Griego

### ERDC Membership 2018

**Voting**
- Rep. Debbie A. Rodella, Chair, Española
- Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr., Vice Chair, Pueblo of Jemez
- Sen. Jacob R. Candelaria, Albuquerque
- Rep. Rebecca Dow, Truth or Consequences
- Sen. Ron Griggs, Alamogordo
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- Sen. Pat Woods, Broadview

**Advisory**
- Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon, Milan
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- Rep. Alonzo Baldonado, Los Lunas
- Sen. Craig W. Brandt, Rio Rancho
- Sen. William F. Burt, Alamogordo
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- Rep. Linda M. Trujillo, Santa Fe
- Rep. Bob Woolery, Roswell
- Rep. Monica Youngblood, Albuquerque

**Staff**
- Randall Cherry
- Lenaya Montoya
- Rebecca Griego
- Diego Jimenez
(4) regulation and licensing, including:
   • revisions to the Procurement Code to provide preferences for small businesses;
   • barriers to occupancy of vacant buildings in rural communities;
   • recommendations from the Construction Industries Division of the Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD) and other stakeholders on how to streamline permitting and inspection processes at the state and local levels; and
   • the effects of state personnel staffing levels on the issuance of permits and licenses;

(5) taxes and financial incentives, including:
   • a report on the Native fuel tax;
   • tax credits and incentives for businesses and related economic impacts; and
   • a report on the lodger's tax;

(6) reports from state agencies and political subdivisions, including:
   • the work of the Jobs Council;
   • current and proposed programs and 2018 legislative priorities of the Economic Development Department (EDD) and its associated divisions;
   • current and proposed programs and 2018 legislative priorities of the Workforce Solutions Department (WSD), including detailed reporting on the Rapid Workforce Development Fund and its effectiveness in training and preparing employees and recruiting companies;
   • current and proposed programs and 2018 legislative priorities of the RLD and its associated divisions;
   • current and proposed programs and 2018 legislative priorities of the Tourism Department;
   • updates and legislative priorities of the Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD);
   • the initiatives and recent activities of Spaceport America;
   • an update from the Independent Hearing Office on its effectiveness in efficiently resolving tax disputes;
   • a report from the LFC on duplicative state agency services and overlapping regulations; and
   • efforts and opportunities to coordinate newly proposed state agency programs;

(7) additional topics relating to rural and economic development in the state, including:
   • economic opportunities around the Gallup transportation loading facility;
   • the future of copper mining;
   • value-added agricultural industries;
   • capital outlay needs of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad; and
   • New Mexico's legal environment for businesses and opportunities for reform; and
(8) proposed economic-development-related legislation.

During the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to explore and discuss:

(1) business development resources and state-supported strategies;
(2) workforce development and education;
(3) infrastructure, utilities and basic needs in New Mexico communities, including broadband deployment in rural communities;
(4) regulation and licensing;
(5) taxes and financial incentives;
(6) reports from state agencies and political subdivisions, including:
   - current and proposed programs and 2019 legislative priorities of the EDD and its associated divisions;
   - current and proposed programs and 2019 legislative priorities of the WSD;
   - current and proposed programs and 2019 legislative priorities of the RLD and its associated divisions;
   - current and proposed programs and 2019 legislative priorities of the Tourism Department;
   - updates and legislative priorities of the TRD;
   - the initiatives and recent activities of Spaceport America;
   - a report from the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) on the economic benefits of improving and maintaining state parks; coordination with local businesses, municipalities and other entities to increase tourism; and uses of proposed rate increases; and
   - updates from the CYFD and the WSD on child care resources;
(7) ways to promote job creation;
(8) additional topics relating to rural and economic development in the state, including:
   - infrastructure, community and essential services in frontier communities;
   - incentives for retirees to relocate to New Mexico;
   - alcohol-related issues, including:
     - recent amendments to the Liquor Control Act;
     - license availability; and
     - online sale of alcohol;
   - regulation of hemp production;
   - state property transfers;
   - state road signs and tourism;
   - entrepreneurial training programs;
   - value-added agriculture industries;
   - the horse racing industry;
   - the racino industry;
   - Four Corners power plant closures;
   - transportation infrastructure needs;
 state university research programs;
 public school programs encouraging careers in science;
 the Gallup sheep processing plant;
 building inspections and economic development;
 livestock theft;
 rural health care provider jobs; and
 legalization of recreational marijuana;
(9) proposed economic-development-related legislation; and
(10) industrial hemp as it relates to economic development.

Indian Affairs Committee
2017, 2018

The Indian Affairs Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on June 5, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018.

During the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to explore and discuss the topics in major issue areas affecting Native Americans as follows.

(1) State-Tribal Relations:
 receive updates from Native American liaisons or similarly tasked individuals from state executive agencies to assess outreach efforts, challenges and successes;
 discuss services provided to urban Indians and the work of the City of Albuquerque's recently reactivated Commission on Indian Affairs;
 receive a report from the Indian Affairs Department (IAD) and tribes to assess the successes and challenges of the State-Tribal Collaboration Act and find ways for improvement; and
 receive a report on state-tribal agreements, partnerships and shared responsibilities and benefits regarding intergovernmental agreements.

(2) Health, Environment and Safety:
 receive an update on the impact of, and response to, the Gold King Mine spill;
 receive a report on uranium cleanup projects in the Grants mineral belt;
 discuss health care access, delivery and financing for Native Americans; and
 examine safety efforts along U.S. Route 550.

(3) Development in Indian Country:
 receive a report on New Mexico's consumer lending industry and state regulation of lending practices, including the impact on Native Americans;
 discuss drilling on sacred sites in and around the Navajo Nation;
 discuss Indian gaming issues;
receive a report on rights of way on tribal land, especially in light of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals' recent *PNM v. Barboan* decision;

receive a report on tribal fuel taxation;

receive a report on New Mexico's energy resource future and how it will affect state revenues;

receive an update on REDINET and the rural broadband special audit; and

receive a report on opportunities provided by the federal Department of Defense to Native American veterans and their families.

(4) Education:

review school transportation and cross-boundary agreements;
review Native American study programs, initiatives and resources at state higher education institutions and tribal colleges;
 receive an update on charter school education in Indian country;
 receive an update on federal and state impact aid and ongoing lawsuits;
 receive an update and report relating to funding, statistics and accountability measures of the Indian Education Act;
 receive a report on the status of the proposed repeal and replacement of maintenance and enrichment programs and its impact on Native American programs and Native American students;
 receive a report on the status of funding and program implementation for increasing the number of Native American teachers, educational leaders and administrators;
 receive a report on House Bill 484 (2017 regular session), which requires needs assessments in school districts for Native American students and requires a systemic framework to close the achievement gap for Native American students;
 hear an assessment of the use of P.L. 874 by school districts supplanting programs as a result of budget cuts;
 receive a briefing on Yazzie v. New Mexico; and
 receive a report from the University of New Mexico (UNM) regarding Native American support and programs for Native American faculty and students; undergraduate and graduate schools and programs; and status of the UNM seal.

(5) Protection of Cultural Resources:
 receive a report on the implementation of federal Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act of 2016; and

(6) Courts and Criminal Justice:
 receive updates from the Southwest Indian Law Clinic and the American Indian Law Center on current programs and issues;
 discuss tribal courts and issues and the challenges they face;
 review tribal jurisdiction and cross-deputization in law enforcement;
 receive a report on the history of and issues surrounding the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and how it intersects with criminal and family law;
 receive a report on alternative sentencing in the courts; and
 receive a report on the metropolitan court model for driving while under the influence.

(7) Annual Reports from Executive Agencies:
 receive a report from the Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) regarding:
 state and federal funding for Amodt settlement obligations;
 the status of proposed Indian water rights settlements requiring state
financing;

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

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

♦ receive a report from the IAD 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, programs and services from each agency;

♦ 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; and

♦ receive a report from the Human Services Department (HSD) on the development of standards and criteria certifying families and homes, the state providing resources to tribes for foster care programs, the establishment of a state-tribal judicial consortium and revisions to the Children's Code in compliance with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.

During the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to explore and discuss the following.

1) State-Tribal Relations:

♦ receive updates from Native American liaisons or similarly tasked individuals from state executive agencies to assess outreach efforts, challenges and successes;

♦ receive a report on priorities and updates from the IAD;

♦ receive a report pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 75 on tribal community needs related to education, health, social welfare, behavioral health and other essential services; and

♦ review funding for tribal capital projects.

2) Health:

♦ receive a report from the Indian Health Care Task Force regarding access to medical cannabis on tribal lands pursuant to 2018 Senate Memorial 105.

3) Economic Development in Indian Country:

♦ receive a report from the state and tribes on gaming issues, including sports betting and alcohol on racetrack casino floors and their impacts on tribal-state gaming compacts;

♦ receive a report on the small loan marketplace, including proposed rules for small loans, the effect of the new annual percentage rate cap, an analysis of data collected from borrowers and lenders and the impact on Native Americans;

♦ receive presentations regarding tribal easements;

♦ receive a report on broadband access on tribal lands; and

♦ receive a report regarding hydraulic fracturing in Sandoval County.

4) Education:

♦ receive an update on charter school education and initiatives;
receive information on a new UNM masters of Native American studies program and an update on creating a Ph.D. program in Native American studies;
 receive a report and recommendations pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 83 regarding compliance with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978;
 receive a report from the Tribal Colleges and Universities Presidents' Council; and
 receive a status update on the establishment of a Native American social workers institute at the School of Social Work at New Mexico Highlands University.

(5) Annual Reports from Executive Agencies:
 receive a report from the Office of the State Engineer and the ISC regarding:
- the impact of not funding Aamodt settlement obligations and the impact on federal funding;
- the status of proposed Indian water rights settlements requiring state financing;
- the distribution of funds from the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund to implement approved settlements;
- recommendations on the level of funding for the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund necessary to timely implement Indian water rights; and
- the implications of a Supreme Court decision in the Navajo Nation water rights settlement case on other Indian water rights settlements;
 receive a report from the IAD 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, programs and services from each agency; and
 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.

Interim Legislative Ethics Committee
2017, 2018

The Interim Legislative Ethics Committee is created in Section 2-15-7 NMSA 1978 as the legislative body responsible for addressing all matters that arise during the interim pertaining to legislative ethics. As such, the committee does not meet on a regular basis but only when a situation arises within its purview.

Subcommittees of the committee met during the current biennium to consider matters relating to allegations against legislators. Its deliberations were conducted in compliance with statutory confidentiality provisions, and no advisory opinions were issued.
Investments and Pensions Oversight Committee

2017, 2018

The Investments and Pensions Oversight Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on June 5, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018.

For the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to:

1. receive reports from the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA), the Educational Retirement Board (ERB) and the Retiree Health Care Authority (RHCA) on each agency's maintenance of sustainability and solvency, as demonstrated by:
   - actuarial valuation reports, including details of unfunded liabilities, other actuarial metrics and experience studies;
   - funding policies; and
   - plans for addressing impediments to sustainability and solvency, including cost-of-living adjustments to pension payment levels;

2. receive reports from the PERA and the ERB on the effects that potential changes to cost-of-living adjustment policies would have on pension fund solvency;

3. receive reports from the PERA and the ERB on the effects that recent, temporary changes to employee and employer contribution rates had on pension fund solvency;

4. receive reports from the State Investment Council (SIC), the PERA, the ERB, the RHCA and the Education Trust Board on each agency's maintenance of transparency, as demonstrated by:
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<tr>
<td>Rep. Tomás E. Salazar, Chair, Las Vegas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sen. George K. Munoz, Vice Chair, Gallup</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sen. Steven P. Neville, Aztec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros, Questa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sen. Stuart Ingle, Portales</td>
<td>Sen. Stuart Ingle, Portales</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sen. Mary Kay Papen, Las Cruces</td>
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<td><strong>Staff</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tessa Ryan</td>
<td>Tessa Ryan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Dexter</td>
<td>Kathleen Dexter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Martinez</td>
<td>Nancy Martinez</td>
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- **policies and controls, including:**
  - asset allocation policies and the implementation of those policies;
  - investment committee policies;
  - financial reports, investment performance reports and, if applicable, actuarial reports; and
  - investment manager and consultant selection processes and required disclosures;

- **investment management and consulting expenses, including base performance and incentive fees and costs, whether Expense or capitalized, on-budget or off-budget; custodial fees; investment transaction fees; commissions; and other investment-related expenses, if any; and**

- **audited financial statements and board and committee meeting minutes posted on each agency's website;**

  (5) receive reports from the SIC, the PERA, the ERB, the RHCA and the Education Trust Board on each agency's value, as demonstrated by:
经济影响；和
比较与同行；

(6) 收取报告，由 SIC, PERA, ERB, RHCA 和教育信托委员会对每个机构的战略目标，根据以下内容进行演示:
- 计划和行动；和
- 故障排除，如有，针对目标；

(7) 收取报告，由 PERA, ERB, 部门金融和行政以及州审计员对政府实体的影响，根据政府会计标准委员会声明 67 号和 68 号；

(8) 收取报告，由 SIC 对其在新墨西哥州私人股权基金或新墨西哥州企业的投资，这些投资或企业有助于该州的经济发展；

(9) 收取报告，由 PERA 关于公立员工参与其 457 计划，和从专家关于私营部门员工参与州管理的退休计划；

(10) 收取报告，关于选项和实施过程，为私营部门的员工为有限或没有访问退休储蓄安排，工作和努力的州财政委员会，召集一个工作组，以识别那些选项和过程；

(11) 收取报告，关于法律索赔的处理或进度，由或代表州投资机构；

(12) 收取报告，由 SIC, PERA, ERB, RHCA 和教育信托委员会，针对每个机构的员工和薪酬结构；

(13) 收取报告，由州土地办公室的收入，来自州土地和关于从土地赠款永久基金分配的收入，到基金的受益者；

(14) 收取报告，关于立法与公共资金投资和养老金计划的管理有关的立法；和

(15) 如有必要，考虑其他与公共资金投资和养老金计划的管理有关的问题。

对于 2018 年间，委员会建议:

(1) 收取报告，由 PERA, ERB 和 RHCA，关于每个机构的可持续性与偿债能力 — 作为根据精算估值报告，未偿债负债，其他精算指标和经验研究的影响 — 和根据其计划，为了改善可持续性与偿债能力；

(2) 收取报告，由 SIC, PERA, ERB, RHCA 和教育信托委员会，关于每个机构的透明度，根据其出版的:
- 资产配置政策；
- 投资委员会政策；
- 财务报告，投资表现报告，如适用，精算报告；
investment manager and consultant selection processes and required disclosures;
investment management and consulting expenses, including base performance and incentive fees and costs, and whether they are expensed or capitalized and on-budget or off-budget; custodial fees; investment transaction fees; commissions; and other investment-related expenses, if any; and
audited financial statements and board and committee meeting minutes;
(3) receive reports from the SIC, the PERA, the ERB, the RHCA and the Education Trust Board on each agency's value, as demonstrated by its economic impact and as compared to its peers;
(4) receive reports from the SIC, the PERA, the ERB, the RHCA and the Education Trust Board on each agency's strategic goals, including its plans and actions to reach those goals;
(5) receive reports from the PERA, the ERB, the RHCA and the state auditor on the effects on governmental entities of recent Governmental Accounting Standards Board statements;
(6) receive a report from the SIC on economically targeted investments of the Severance Tax Permanent Fund;
(7) receive a report from the PERA about public employee participation in its 457b plan;
(8) receive a report on the options and process for implementing a retirement savings vehicle for private-sector employees having limited or no access to a retirement savings arrangement at work and a report from the state treasurer on the findings of the Retirement Income Security Task Force;
(9) receive reports on the disposition or progress of legal claims filed by, on behalf of or against state investing agencies;
(10) receive a report from the State Land Office on revenue generated from state lands and on distributions from the Land Grant Permanent Fund;
(11) consider legislation relevant to these topics; and
(12) as necessary, examine other issues relevant to the investment of public funds and the administration of pension programs.

Land Grant Committee
2017, 2018

The Land Grant Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on June 5, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018.
For the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to focus on the following topics.
(1) Strengthening Governance Capacity
   ♦ Examination of land grant board elections and authorities, such as:
     ◊ how to structure interim authorities if elections are challenged;
     ◊ the potential for election assistance from the Land Grant Council or Attorney General's Office (AGO); and
     ◊ the potential for staggering the terms of office for board members.
Examination of the authorities of the AGO's Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty Division.

Review of plat map issues regarding the division of common land at Cristobal de la Serna Land Grant-Merced and other land grants.

Continued oversight of efforts to build strong internal financial structures within small governmental bodies, including land grants-mercedes and acequia associations.

Analysis of land-use planning, contracting and other governance capacities needed by land grants-mercedes and acequia associations.

Training opportunities and needs for land grant-merced board members.

The potential for a water resources ombudsman for land grants-mercedes.

The potential eligibility for state and federal hardship auctions and assistance.

(2) State and Federal Land Access: Traditional and Cultural Uses

Continue a dialogue with the Department of Game and Fish (DGF) regarding traditional uses within wildlife management areas, stocking lakes and the DGF's "cultural use" proposal.
Receive an update on the revision process for the forest management plans for the Cibola, Santa Fe and Carson national forests. In particular, engage the U.S. Forest Service regarding the inclusion of forest-dependent communities, such as land grants-mercedes, in the development of the revised forest plans.

Receive updates from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management regarding cultural and traditional uses on public lands.

Receive updates from various state and federal land management agencies on potential land transfers to land grants and on resolution of boundary disputes.

(3) Economic Development

Examine the threshold requirements to access various governmental and nonprofit funding programs and for private venture business opportunities. The goal would be to identify key capacity obstacles within land grants-mercedes that can be addressed. Specific programs and business opportunities to be reviewed include:

- various programs offered by the EDD, including the potential to develop Local Economic Development Act projects;
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development grant programs;
- private nonprofit grant programs and the potential for nonprofit/public partnerships to build capacity;
- development of location and vendor relationships with the film industry, including the possibility for regional liaison offices to work with land grants, tribes and counties;
- opportunities for local entrepreneur training and development at land grants;
- review of gross receipts tax issues and the best legal frameworks for land grant- or acequia-fostered businesses; and
- continued examination of the business potential of a transfer of the U.S. Forest Service visitor center and museum in Abiquiu.

(4) Reports from Individual Land Grants-Mercedes and Associated Entities

Hear reports from various land grants-mercedes.

Review the Land Grant Council's programs and updates from the Land Grant Consejo and the UNM Land Grant Studies Program.

Hear reports from the Acequia Commission and the New Mexico Acequia Association.

For the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to focus on the following topics.

(1) Strengthening Governance Capacity:

- examine land grant board elections and authorities, including:
  - the structure of an interim authority to operate if an election is challenged;
  - the potential for election assistance from the Land Grant Council or AGO; and
  - the potential staggering of terms of office for board members;
(1) Financial Issues:
- review recurring funding for land grants;
- discuss currently developing programs at the UNM School of Law for land
  grants-mercedes and acequia associations;
- examine possible methods for land grants to receive hardship distributions of
  used equipment from the Department of Transportation;
- coordinate capital outlay funding for priority expenditures; and
- discuss developing a training program for land grant-merced board members
  in areas of governmental finance, contracting, land use planning and economic development.

(2) Land and Water Issues:
- review the conclusions of the AGO report in response to 2018 House Joint
  Memorial 1 on the land divisions at the Cristobal de la Serna Land Grant-Merced;
- examine potential benefits of the new delinquent property tax statute —
  House Bill 88, enacted pursuant to Laws 2018, Chapter 50 — as a tool for land grants;
- continue a dialogue with the DGF regarding traditional uses within wildlife
  management areas and stocking lakes;
- receive an update on the revision process for national forest management plans;
- examine land encroachment issues at the Las Vegas Land Grant-Merced;
- receive updates from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management regarding cultural
  and traditional uses on public lands;
- receive updates on the implementation of the traditional use policy at the
  DGF and the transfer of the Laguna del Campo stock pond; and
- hear a presentation from the U.S. Forest Service on development of a uniform
  policy regarding maintenance work on acequia facilities on lands under its jurisdiction.

(3) Economic Development:
- receive testimony on the UNM School of Architecture and Planning's
  community development charrettes and the process for sponsoring a charrette at land grants;
- receive an update on the Piedra Lumbre Visitors Center project near Abiquiu;
- hear status updates on business development projects at various land grants;
- review models for marketing agricultural products from land grants; and
- discuss workforce challenges to development in land grant communities and
  possible remedies, including the potential for land grant communities to connect with NMSU's
  "Innoventure" entrepreneurial program for students in grades six through 12 and the New Mexico Youth
  Conservation Corps.

(4) Reports from Individual Land Grants-Mercedes and Associated Entities:
- hear reports from various land grants-mercedes;
- review the Land Grant Council's programs and receive updates from the New
  Mexico Land Grant Consejo and the UNM Land Grant Studies Program; and
- hear reports from the Acequia Commission and the New Mexico Acequia
  Association.
Section 2-13-1 NMSA 1978, which creates the LHHS, directs the committee to conduct a continuing study of the programs, agencies, policies, issues and needs relating to health and human services. The committee proposed to cover the following topics during the 2017 interim.

**Health and Human Services Agencies**

The committee planned to continue its review of the work of the state's health and human services agencies: the Department of Health (DOH); the HSD; the CYFD; the Aging and Long-Term Services Department; the Corrections Department; and other agencies, boards and commissions with health and human services functions.

**Medicaid**

The committee planned to:

1. continue its review of the many services and programs covered under the state's Medicaid program and the status of coverage expanded under the federal Patient Protection and

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**LHHS Membership 2017**

**Voting**
- Rep. Deborah A. Armstrong, Chair, Albuquerque
- Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino, Vice Chair, Albuquerque
- Rep. Gail Armstrong, Magdalena
- Rep. Rebecca Dow, Truth or Consequences
- Sen. Mark Moores, Albuquerque
- Sen. Bill B. O'Neill, Albuquerque
- Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle, Roswell

**Advisory**
- Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary, Las Cruces
- Sen. Gay G. Kernan, Hobbs
- Rep. Tim D. Lewis, Rio Rancho
- Sen. Linda M. Lopez, Albuquerque
- Rep. Rodolfo "Rudy" S. Martinez, Bayard
- Sen. Cisco McSorley, Albuquerque
- Sen. Howie C. Morales, Silver City
- Sen. Mary Kay Papen, Las Cruces
- Sen. Nancy Rodriguez, Santa Fe
- Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero, Albuquerque
- Rep. Angelica Rubio, Las Cruces
- Rep. Nick L. Salazar, Ohkay Owingeh
- Sen. William P. Soules, Las Cruces
- Sen. Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics, Cerrillos
- Sen. Bill Tallman, Albuquerque

**Staff**
- Michael Hely
- Karen Wells

**LHHS Membership 2018**

**Voting**
- Rep. Deborah A. Armstrong, Chair, Albuquerque
- Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino, Vice Chair, Albuquerque
- Rep. Gail Armstrong, Magdalena
- Rep. Rebecca Dow, Truth or Consequences
- Sen. Mark Moores, Albuquerque
- Sen. Bill B. O'Neill, Albuquerque
- Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle, Roswell

**Advisory**
- Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary, Las Cruces
- Sen. Gay G. Kernan, Hobbs
- Rep. Tim D. Lewis, Rio Rancho
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- Rep. Nick L. Salazar, Ohkay Owingeh
- Sen. William P. Soules, Las Cruces
- Sen. Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics, Cerrillos
- Sen. Bill Tallman, Albuquerque

**Staff**
- Michael Hely
- Chris Pommier
- Karen Wells
Affordable Care Act. The committee proposed to review the possibility of federal changes to Medicaid matching funds, Medicaid provider reimbursement changes, provider networks and other matters relating to recipients' access to services;

(2) review the HSD's proposed new Centennial Care Medicaid managed care waiver, which awaits approval by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and review the public's input on the proposal; and

(3) continue to review Medicaid's role in a number of programs, such as home visiting, long-term services, supportive housing and other health coverage and health care delivery innovations.

_Aging_

The committee planned to continue to examine matters relating to the state's long-term care facilities and home- and community-based long-term services, including nutrition, transportation and other programs that are experiencing cuts.

*Children and Families*

The committee planned to:

(1) review the policies and programs of the CYFD, including child protective services, lay and foster caregiver supports, juvenile justice, child care assistance and supports for families;

(2) focus on the effect of, and interventions to address, domestic violence statewide; and

(3) receive testimony from other local and national agencies, programs and organizations whose work entails researching the needs of and serving families and children and to review reports.

*Health Coverage*

The committee planned to:

(1) receive updates relating to the state's private health coverage market, including the effects of proposed state rules and changes to federal law;

(2) continue to review the availability and cost of health insurance benefits, network adequacy, carrier practices and consumer rights; and

(3) examine the administration of state agency health coverage programs, including the Interagency Benefits Advisory Committee's joint purchasing on behalf of state employees and retirees, and review proposals to further consolidate some purchasing and expand coverage.

*Human Services*

The committee planned to review programs and services relating to nutrition, housing, financial assistance, employment programs and the administration of human services programs statewide, including updates on the Deborah Hatten-Gonzales case relating to the HSD's administration of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

*Health Care Workforce*

The committee planned to:

(1) continue to review the state's health care workforce, including receiving testimony from the state's Health Care Work Force Work Group and reviewing "pipeline" programs that seek to expand the number of new health care workers; and

(2) in light of recent legislation, review proposals to expand some health professionals' scopes of practice and to merge some health professional licensure and oversight boards.
Indian Health and Human Services

The committee planned to hold a joint meeting with the Indian Affairs Committee to review matters of common interest, including long-term care, health disparities and sexual assault and domestic violence prevention.

Also during the 2017 interim, along with the BHS, the committee proposed to:

1. review the state's capacity to meet the demand for behavioral health services statewide through private, Medicaid and non-Medicaid state agency behavioral health coverage and programs for adults and children; and
2. focus considerably on the ongoing substance use disorder crisis statewide and the incidence and available treatment options for other major behavioral health conditions.

In the 2018 interim, the committee's two subcommittees — the BHS and the DCS — were not convened, and instead, behavioral health and disabilities concerns were incorporated into the work plan for the committee as a whole. The committee planned to address the following areas during the 2018 interim.

Public Health

The committee planned to discuss general public health, including the role of the DOH, school-based health centers and the following matters as public health matters:

1. matters identified during the National Conference of State Legislatures' (NCSL's) and Association of State and Territorial Health Officials' 2016 conference on "winnable battles", including:
   - tobacco use; and
   - increasing access to long-acting reversible contraception;
2. hunger, including reporting pursuant to the following memorials related to hunger:
   - 2018 House Memorial 90 requesting creation of a hunger council;
   - 2018 House Memorial 55 regarding reduction of school food waste to benefit hungry schoolchildren;
   - reporting pursuant to 2018 Senate Memorial 76 relating to cuts to meal programs and other services for seniors; and
   - 2018 Senate Joint Memorial 16, which pertains to the availability of federal funding to improve student nutrition and reduce lunch debt;
3. the state's rate of obesity and efforts to address obesity; and
4. a proposal to extend the applicability to all schools of a state law that provides for school food donations.

The committee also planned to hear testimony regarding the status of DOH-run facilities and clinical services and the department's general role in promoting public health.

Workforce and Scope of Practice

The committee planned to address the state's health care and human services workforce needs by hearing matters relating to the workforce in general, including reports from the New Mexico Health Care Workforce Committee and the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium. The committee also planned to hear the following scope of practice matters:
(1) reports from the Pediatric Specialty Care Task Force pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 14;
(2) reports from the Physical Therapy Workforce Incentives Study Group pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 64;
(3) testimony on the enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact passed pursuant to 2018 Senate Bill 1 and discussion of 2018 Senate Bill 136;
(4) testimony on a proposed compact for psychology and telehealth;
(5) the creation of a dental therapist profession and other matters affecting the oral health care professions;
(6) changes to the scopes of practice of chiropractic physicians;
(7) a review of funding for the state's health professional loan repayment assistance and loan-for-service programs;
(8) a proposal to license the practice of naturopathy; and
(9) reporting from the Board of Nursing's Safe Harbor for Nurses Task Force pursuant to 2017 Senate Joint Memorial 13 on the provision of peer review to nurses in circumstances involving a possible conflict between the nurses' duties to patients and their employers.

Health Care System Reform

The committee planned to devote extensive time to hearing reports pursuant to memorials on health care systems, including:

   (1) 2018 House Memorial 9 and 2018 Senate Memorial 3 exploring the possibility of a Medicaid "buy-in" option, where members of the general public could purchase coverage through a Medicaid health plan;
   (2) 2018 Senate Memorial 7 regarding a health insurance market stability task force;
   (3) 2018 Senate Memorial 4 and 2018 House Memorial 8 requesting the creation of a UNM movement disorders center;
   (4) 2018 Senate Memorial 44 requesting the convening of, and a legislative report from, a New Mexico health council system task force made up of county and tribal health councils;
   (5) 2018 Senate Joint Memorial 15 requesting that the DOH and the Southwest University of Naprapathic Medicine study the possible benefits of naprapathic medicine in managing acute and chronic pain;
   (6) 2018 House Memorial 106 requesting that the secretary of corrections undertake a formal cost-benefit analysis of the possibility of returning to a corrections health care system directly administered by the Corrections Department in partnership with other state agencies. While reporting was not requested until November 1, 2019, the LHHS proposed to hear a progress report during the 2018 interim; and
   (7) 2018 Senate Memorial 108 requesting that the IAD lead an Indian health care task force to assess the impact to the state's General Fund when members of federally recognized tribes receive health care from state-run health care facilities and from health care facilities outside of the federal Indian Health Service and tribally administered "638" sites.

In additional reporting pursuant to memorials, the committee planned to hear testimony on:

   (1) health disparities;
(2) a proposal for a health care coordination commission;
(3) aid in dying;
(4) billing practices pursuant to which covered persons receive unexpected health care bills for services provided out of network; and
(5) changes in federal insurance laws that waive requirements for "essential health benefits" and related matters.

Early Childhood
The committee planned to discuss issues related to early childhood services, including:

1. 2018 Senate Memorial 95 requesting that the J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force continue investigating the effects of parental mental illness, substance use disorder and family violence on young children and continue its work in recommending policies to create a behavioral health system that addresses multigenerational family needs;
2. LFC staff reporting on the state's child care system;
3. medical evidence concerning the need for assessment and appropriate intervention in cases of infants at risk for cerebral palsy before six months of age, when connections in the brain are forming;
4. the role of Head Start programs and their integration with early childhood shared services programs;
5. a strengths-based assessment of children in lieu of, or to complement, screening for adverse childhood experiences;
6. expert testimony on the sharing of data among state agencies to prevent child abuse and neglect;
7. expert testimony on recent changes to federal foster care law;
8. 2018 House Memorial 103 on services for youth in foster care;
9. a presentation of the book Anna, Age 8: The Data-Driven Prevention of Childhood Trauma and Maltreatment by Dr. Katherine Ortega Courtney and Dominic Cappello; and
10. training and support for the child care workforce, as well as data on the current and projected early childhood development workforce.

Health Care Infrastructure
The committee planned to explore topics relating to health care infrastructure, including:

1. matters relating to hospitals, including:
   - the health of rural hospitals;
   - global budgeting, per the Johns Hopkins Hospital and other models;
   - the creation of a multi-hospital generic pharmaceuticals company to address rising prices and the scarcity of generic drugs;
   - models of hospital systems; and
   - virtual hospitals;
2. a discussion of the current climate and roles in pharmaceuticals retail, coverage and regulation in the state, including community pharmacies, pharmacy benefits managers, insurers and manufacturers;
(3) a proposal for a behavioral health inpatient facility in southern New Mexico, including an LFC staff review of that proposal;
(4) the funding of rural emergency medical services;
(5) proposals to establish new guidelines for health facility staffing;
(6) an update on the work of the New Mexico Direct Caregivers Coalition leading the task force established pursuant to 2017 Senate Joint Memorial 6 relating to implementation of federal wage and overtime laws for direct caregivers;
(7) the extension of the rural health care practitioner tax credit to social workers and pharmacists;
(8) 2017 Senate Joint Memorial 16 regarding the state's trauma systems; and
(9) reporting pursuant to 2018 Senate Joint Memorial 8 on the possibility of creating a statewide 911 oversight board.

Protective Services and Well-Being in Corrections Settings
The LHHS and the CCJ planned to hold a joint meeting to cover:

(1) violence, including:
   - gun violence, including research by the National Institutes of Health and Victor La Cerva, M.D.;
   - domestic violence, including batterer interventions;
   - sexual violence, including sexual violence against individuals with disabilities; and
   - the promotion of training on the risks and effects of strangulation;
(2) guardianships and conservatorships, including:
   - oversight questions and cost of implementing the uniform act;
   - temporary guardianships and the fate of hospitals in those situations;
   - a general talk on civil rights, including when someone can have a guardian or conservator appointed;
   - the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council's role in indigent care;
   - child protective services, including the LFC's recommendations for an overhaul; and
   - 2018 House Memorial 94 regarding grandparents raising grandchildren; and
(3) the state's juvenile justice system.

The committee planned to cover the following matters relating to protective services and to well-being in corrections settings:

(1) reporting pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 106 regarding prison and jail health care, including substance use disorder services;
(2) 2018 House Memorial 89 on human trafficking and services for victims;
(3) proposed changes to the state's medical malpractice laws;
(4) reporting pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 82 on the role of free legal services in protective services and other matters;
(5) boarding homes, including whether the DOH or another entity should have responsibility; and
(6) nursing homes and the role of the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

Cannabis
The committee planned to:

(1) receive reporting pursuant to 2018 Senate Memorial 105 requesting that a task force make recommendations regarding medical cannabis affordability and accessibility and regarding intergovernmental agreements to allow Indian tribal governments to participate as medical cannabis producers;
(2) receive reporting pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 67 and 2018 Senate Memorials 55 and 110 proposing to study the implications of using medical cannabis for treatment and avoiding opioid use disorders;
(3) hear testimony about schools and workplaces that ban medical cannabis;
(4) examine the implications of expanding the legal use of cannabis, including the benefits of increased research, the risks of greater legalization and marketing considerations;
(5) examine barriers to students' access to cannabis medication in schools that is otherwise authorized under state law; and
(6) consider proposed changes to the Lynn and Erin Compassionate Use Act and expansion of eligibility under the state's medical cannabis program.

Data and Information Technology
The committee planned to hear testimony on several matters relating to information technology and the collection and application of health-related data and to review legislative proposals for health system interoperability, such as the one proposed in 2018 Senate Bill 145. The committee also planned to examine the status of the HSD's ongoing information technology upgrade and further investigate proposals for an all-payer claims database in the state. The committee planned to hear testimony on the use of data analytics to assist health coverage entities to improve health care and to examine state and federal privacy laws and possible means of aligning them to ensure adequate protection while removing barriers to health care.

Prescription Drugs
The committee planned to hear testimony on state practices to use data and evidence-based policy in creating formularies; the prescription drug recycling program; the State Medicaid Alternative Reimbursement and Purchasing Test for High-Cost Drugs; and a drug effectiveness review project. The committee planned to request expert testimony on effectiveness review from the Center for Evidence-Based Policy.

Medicaid
The committee planned to hear updates on many aspects of the state's Medicaid program, including:

(1) the waiver renewal application for "Centennial Care 2.0" that is currently under federal consideration and the status of Medicaid managed care;
(2) an update on the Deborah Hatten-Gonzales litigation, including special master reporting and autoclosure stipulation;
(3) a proposal to provide for reimbursement to spouses for the delivery of Medicaid personal care services;
(4) the potential resolution of the Jackson class action lawsuit; and
(5) 2018 Senate Bill 192 using a health care quality surcharge to fund reimbursement increases for nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities.

Human Services and Family Supports
The committee planned to hear testimony on a number of issues relating to supporting the health and well-being of families, including:
(1) reporting on patient mental health from LFC staff pursuant to 2018 House Joint Memorial 2;
(2) reporting pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 4 on parental paid leave, with reporting from the Parental Paid-Leave Working Group established in 2015;
(3) school-based health centers;
(4) a presentation on the proposal for a family-friendly tax credit;
(5) a presentation that details the types and administration of nutritional, housing, employment and other public benefits programs offered in the state;
(6) proposed changes to the State Early Learning Advisory Council;
(7) the community schools model;
(8) early childhood education; and
(9) child care services.

Disabilities
The DCS planned to meet as a committee of the whole, with the chair and vice chair of the DCS conducting meetings relating to disabilities concerns at a convening of the whole LHHS membership.

The matters that the committee as a whole planned to hear included:
(1) testimony about the status of the developmental disabilities supports and services waiver, including issues such as:
   ♦ the length of the current waiting list and proposals for shortening or eliminating it;
   ♦ the status of acuity assessments, including the Supports Intensity Scale;
   ♦ the number of individuals served with community benefit services while awaiting allocation; and
   ♦ a proposal for a supports waiver for individuals awaiting allocation;
(2) employment for people living with disabilities, including issues such as:
   ♦ the incidence of subminimum wage employment in the state;
   ♦ recommendations relating to whether exceptions to the state's minimum wage laws should remain in effect; and
   ♦ the status of the Vocational Rehabilitation Division under the Public Education Department (PED) and proposals for moving it; and
(3) reporting from the Autism Spectrum Disorder Needs Task Force established pursuant to 2017 Senate Memorial 79.
**Behavioral Health**

The BHS planned to meet as a committee of the whole, with the chair and vice chair of the BHS conducting meetings relating to behavioral health at a convening of the whole LHHS membership.

The topics that the committee as a whole planned to cover in behavioral health included:

1. An introduction to the single, statewide behavioral health managed care entity, Falling Colors, with which the Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative has contracted;
2. Suicide prevention, including reporting pursuant to 2018 Senate Joint Memorial 1 on veteran suicide prevention;
3. Reporting pursuant to 2018 Senate Bill 220 on crisis triage center administration;
4. Reporting pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 56 on heroin-assisted treatment;
5. Reporting pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 97 on grief counseling;
6. A "summit" on the issue of alcohol use disorder and the agencies and programs that offer treatment in which there are in-depth discussions and recommendations made for further action; and
7. Testimony related to best practices in substance use disorder treatment and recovery by experts and providers.

The committee as a whole also planned to hear reporting pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 107, which proposes that the LESC create a task force made up of the PED, the HSD, the CYFD and other entities to continue investigating the effects of adverse childhood events and make recommendations for creating a two-generation behavioral health system.

**Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee**

2017, 2018

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.

For the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to:

1. Receive updates from New Mexico's military installations;
2. Receive an update on the military base realignment and closure process;
3. Study issues related to female veterans;
4. Study funding for veterans' scholarships;
5. Receive updates regarding college credit for military service from the Higher Education Department (HED) and Veterans' Services Department (VSD);
6. Receive testimony regarding jobs and business opportunities for veterans;
7. Study long-term care options for veterans;
8. Study transportation to and from medical providers for veterans, particularly those living in rural areas of the state;
9. Receive testimony pertaining to education opportunities and outreach to veteran students offered by state educational institutions and public community colleges;
10. Examine options for the prevention of homelessness and support for homeless veterans in areas throughout the state;
(11) examine issues related to issuance of hunting and fishing licenses to veterans;
(12) receive testimony from various posttraumatic stress disorder treatment programs;
(13) receive testimony regarding transfer of the New Mexico State Veterans' Home to the VSD; and
(14) receive testimony regarding the federal Department of Defense's Building Healthy Military Communities pilot program.

In the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to:

(1) receive updates from New Mexico's military installations;
(2) receive an update on the military base realignment and closure process;
(3) study issues related to female veterans;
(4) receive updates regarding college credit for military service from the HED and the VSD;
(5) receive testimony regarding jobs and business opportunities for veterans;
(6) study long-term care options for veterans;
(7) study transportation to and from medical providers for veterans, particularly veterans living in rural areas of the state;
(8) receive testimony pertaining to education opportunities and outreach to veteran students offered by state educational institutions and public community colleges;
(9) examine options for the prevention of homelessness and provide support for homeless veterans in areas throughout the state;
(10) study the transportability of the property tax credit offered to veterans; and
(11) study the establishment of veterans' resource centers at New Mexico colleges and universities.

Mortgage Finance Authority Act Oversight Committee
2017, 2018

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The Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) Act Oversight Committee was created pursuant to the provisions of Section 58-18-4 NMSA 1978.

In addition to carrying out its statutory responsibilities, the committee proposed to focus on the following areas of legislative concern during both the 2017 and 2018 interims:
(1) regional housing;
(2) changes to existing and proposed rules promulgated by the MFA;
(3) the MFA’s funding source and program overview, including the MFA’s single-family mortgage products and the NM Energy$mart Program;
(4) the Affordable Housing Act and the affordable housing tax credit;
(5) federal housing policy and budget trends;
(6) the New Mexico Housing Trust Fund;
(7) the MFA budget and current strategic plan; and
(8) reports on bonds issued, financing strategies and market updates.

In addition to these topics, the committee planned to consider:
(1) during the 2017 interim:
  • 2017 legislation and proposed legislation for the 2018 session; and
  • the challenges in developing a housing infrastructure adequate to meet the needs of the growing workforce in southern Dona Ana County; and
(2) during the 2018 interim:
  • 2018 legislation and proposed legislation for the 2019 session; and
  • supportive housing.

New Mexico Finance Authority Oversight Committee
2017, 2018

The New Mexico Finance Authority (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 to the committee.

For the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to:
(1) receive testimony on the state’s bond rating;
(2) receive testimony on green energy financing for public buildings and how the state may facilitate a more successful program;
(3) review existing oversight policies and processes for all public capital projects and discuss how the processes might be improved;
(4) receive testimony on the Public Project Revolving Fund (PPRF) and discuss ways to partner with banks and other organizations involved in financing;
(5) receive testimony on tribal infrastructure and colonias infrastructure capital outlay processes with a focus on existing challenges to timely expenditure of funds, project completion and how the process may be improved;
(6) discuss film production financing (e.g., review of former programs allowing for specialized credit for film projects through the NMFA);
(7) receive testimony on community banking partnership issues with a focus on bank compliance with the requirements of the federal Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 and how the state might improve the process to better meet local business capital needs;
(8) receive testimony on how existing credit issues can be addressed, possibly through better information for businesses (small business development centers/incubators/other access programs) or modifying the NMFA to allow for more public borrowing options;

(9) receive testimony on Border Authority and Spaceport Authority activities;

(10) receive testimony on current and past revenue allocations of the governmental gross receipts tax and reauthorizations of PPRF funds for fiscal solvency or other uses;

(11) receive testimony on broadband infrastructure statewide, state capital programs and projects and federal and other funding sources for broadband infrastructure;

(12) receive testimony on the capital outlay process and resources for state and local transportation projects; and
(13) report to the legislature and recommend necessary changes in law or policy.

During the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to:

(1) review application, prioritization and planning policies and processes for public capital projects and take testimony from state and local officials on state and local capital needs;
(2) receive testimony on statutes, constitutional provisions, regulations and court decisions governing state and local government capital financing in New Mexico;
(3) receive reports from the NMFA regarding the revenues, transfers, expenditures and status of projects funded from the PPRF and other program funds administered by the NMFA;
(4) receive reports from the Border Authority, the Spaceport Authority and the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority;
(5) receive reports from the NMFA regarding the total expenditures from the Economic Development Revolving Fund and the purpose of those expenditures and receive analyses of the progress of the projects funded;
(6) receive testimony on the NMFA response to the findings and recommendations of the Office of the State Auditor regarding low activity funds, including the Water and Wastewater Project Grant Fund and the Local Transportation Infrastructure Fund;
(7) receive testimony pertaining to the Office of the State Auditor's findings on infrastructure fund balances and strategies to reduce those balances and facilitate fund expenditure efficiency;
(8) receive testimony on tribal infrastructure project approval and planning status to identify barriers to timely expenditure of funds and discuss recommendations on changes to improve expenditure efficiency; and
(9) receive testimony on NMFA funding for charter school facilities, including history, challenges and opportunities.

Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee
2017, 2018

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

For the 2017 interim, in concert with the duties identified in Section 74-4A-11 NMSA 1978, the committee proposed to review:

(1) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) operations and management;
(2) Department of Environment (NMED) programs and operations;
(3) Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) operations, including progress on uranium legacy site and chromium cleanup, shipment of waste to WIPP and efforts to address safety concerns;
(4) the Kirtland Air Force Base fuel spill status and legacy military waste disposal;
(5) the Gold King Mine disaster status;
(6) interim spent fuel storage (Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance);
(7) uranium mining and cleanup efforts;
(8) Sandia National Laboratories' research on lignin;
(9) dry cleaning chemicals and ground water contamination;
(10) heavy metals detection and monitoring;
(11) transforming New Mexico's energy resource future;
(12) brackish ground water concerns and actions to address those concerns; and
(13) a status report from URENCO.

During the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to review:

(1) LANL safety concerns;
(2) the management and operation of LANL by Triad National Security, LLC;
(3) WIPP operations and management;
(4) the chromium plume cleanup update, including the perspective of the Pueblo of San Ildefonso;
(5) the NMED's compliance order on consent with LANL;
(6) consolidated interim spent fuel storage, including the Holtec International application pending before the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission;
(7) the Four Corners "methane hot spot", including scientific analyses of the phenomenon and perspectives of stakeholders;
(8) a report from the Radioactive Waste Consultation Task Force;
(9) a report from the Carlsbad Brine Well Remediation Authority; and
(10) an update on the Gold King Mine spill and the status of environmental monitoring on the San Juan and Animas rivers.

Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee 2017, 2018

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

For the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to:
(1) review the state's existing taxes and discuss possible changes and improvements to those taxes, with continued emphasis on the gross receipts tax, consumption taxes and personal and corporate income taxes;
(2) review the state's primary revenue sources and options for revenue stabilization;
(3) examine the effectiveness and value to the state of tax incentives and the state's ability to report and track the effectiveness of tax incentives;
(4) follow the progress of the tax study for which an appropriation was passed in the first special session of the Fifty-Third Legislature and that is intended to analyze and estimate the gross receipts tax base and other tax bases in the state to allow policymakers to consider various reforms to New Mexico's tax structure;
(5) hear from tax experts on tax policy trends in the country, including recent tax reform efforts and developments regarding the collection and payment of sales and use taxes on internet sales;
(6) evaluate recent proposals for reform of the gross receipts tax and the impact such reforms may have on state and local governments;
(7) discuss taxation of the health care industry, including the impact on the health care providers being taxed and the impact taxing that industry may have on state revenues, including revenue to support the Medicaid program;
(8) review possible changes to the Tax Administration Act to improve tax collections and ease administrative burdens on taxpayers;
(9) discuss the outlook of the energy industry and its impact on state and local revenues; and
(10) determine legislative actions necessary to implement changes identified by committee members that will improve the state's tax system and revenue stabilization.

For the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to:
(1) investigate options to bring internet and remote sellers, including third-party sellers, into the tax base after the U.S. Supreme Court decision in South Dakota v. Wayfair;
(2) examine the effects of federal tax reform on New Mexico's tax structure and its impact on New Mexico taxpayers and hear proposals to address those impacts;

(3) review the state's primary revenue sources and options for revenue stabilization,
especially the effects of the state's reliance on the oil and gas sector and that sector's impact on the stability of state revenues;

(4) examine the effectiveness and value to the state of tax incentives and the state's ability to report and track the effectiveness of tax incentives, including an analysis of restructuring existing incentives from a cost-benefit per job basis to a per project basis;

(5) discuss taxation of the health care industry, including the impact taxing that industry may have on state revenues and support for the Medicaid program;

(6) review issues related to the Insurance Premium Tax Act, which transfers collection of premium taxes from the Office of Superintendent of Insurance to the TRD;

(7) hear from the TRD about its business credit bureau, data analytics and taxpayer advocate initiatives, as well as a review of tax refund claims and protests and issues regarding distributions to local governments;

(8) discuss the potential impact on state revenue from legalizing sports gambling in this state, including the provisions of the 2015 State-Tribal Class III Gaming Compact; and

(9) determine legislative actions necessary to implement changes identified by committee members that will improve the state's tax system and revenue stabilization.

Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee
2017, 2018

The Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on June 5, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018. For the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to hear testimony on:

(1) funding and incentive mechanisms for broadband and telecommunications expansion;
(2) increased technology transfer;
(3) economic development initiatives related to science, technology and telecommunications;
(4) intellectual property development at research institutions in New Mexico, including new and emerging technology incentives at universities;
(5) small business technology needs;
(6) public-private partnerships related to technology and options for state oversight;
(7) updates on current information technology projects and future information technology needs in state government;
(8) the potential for venture capital investment in remote work and solo work centers;
(9) an examination of developments at Spaceport America;
(10) cybersecurity and data breach risks;
(11) New Mexico's education and training programs designed to create pathways to jobs requiring science, technology, engineering and mathematics expertise, including careers with the national laboratories and in software-dependent video entertainment;
(12) Public Service Company of New Mexico's "Transforming a New Energy Balance for New Mexico's Energy Mix" initiative;
(13) updates on management programs and employment at the Sandia and Los Alamos national laboratories;
(14) modern farming technology and fiber-optic-based farm management;
(15) recent and developing energy production technology, including hydraulic fracturing, wellhead management and wind energy;
(16) science- and technology-focused business incubator development; and
(17) the planned modernization of the Office of the Secretary of State's campaign finance software system.

For the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to hear testimony on:

(1) the potential for expansion of broadband and telecommunications services statewide;
(2) cybersecurity and data breach challenges and methods of protection for private consumers, businesses and government agencies;
(3) economic development initiatives related to science, technology and telecommunications;
(4) intellectual property development at research institutions in New Mexico, including new and emerging technologies and entrepreneurial programs at universities;
(5) small business technology needs;
(6) public-private partnerships related to technology;
(7) the status of intellectual technology projects: Department of Information Technology project updates and LFC quarterly reports on program management;
(8) the potential for venture capital investment in remote work centers and solo work incubators;
(9) developments at Spaceport America;
(10) New Mexico's education and training programs designed to create pathways to jobs requiring science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, expertise;
(11) updates on changes in management and programs at Sandia National Laboratories and LANL;
(12) modern technology and methods in farming and in nutrient enhancement of food products;
(13) recent and developing mining processes and marketing challenges;
(14) the status of the state's program for north central New Mexico broadband development;
(15) broadband needs at tribal and nontribal school libraries;
(16) federal programs and technology innovations relating to election security;
(17) innovations in dispersed communications technologies for telecommunications and internet services;
(18) developments in automated vehicle technology and the challenges to ensure traffic safety;
(19) gun safety technology;
(20) the benefits and challenges of heat-reducing windshield films;
(21) an update on the E-911 system;
(22) an update on the DOH's information technology project for its Medicaid benefit distribution system;
(23) status updates from Local Economic Development Act-supported high-technology companies; and
(24) methods for agencies to manage "Big Data".
The Tobacco Settlement Revenue Oversight Committee is created in Section 2-19-1 NMSA 1978. For both the 2017 and 2018 interims, the committee proposed to:

1. review the status of the revenue for current and future fiscal years and reserves for the Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund;
2. receive testimony regarding tobacco settlement-related issues, litigation and legislation;
3. receive testimony regarding the use of the appropriations from the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund by those programs recommended by the committee and funded by the legislature in prior years;
4. prepare recommendations to the LFC for program funding levels for the next fiscal year, based on the committee's program evaluation process; and
5. make findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, available to the legislature as part of the committee's final report.

### Water and Natural Resources Committee

2017, 2018

The Water and Natural Resources Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on June 5, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018.
For the 2017 interim, the committee proposed to focus on:

1. drinking water supply challenges in rural New Mexico;
2. forest and watershed restoration and treatment projects/forest management issues;
3. acequia project funding and water rights issues;
4. the Indian water rights settlement progress and next steps; and Santa Fe County's position on the Aamodt settlement;
5. the Water Infrastructure Team report from the NMED; and the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund and state auditor report on water infrastructure funding;
6. Jicarilla Apache Nation game and fish management policies and practices;
7. DGF elk management policies and other department issues;
8. energy generation and electric transmission issues and the Senate Memorial 102 (2017 regular session) EMNRD report;
9. an Arizona Water Settlements Act of 2004 update from the ISC and New Mexico Central Arizona Project Entity on Gila River diversion proposals;
(10) funding of water supply projects in southwest New Mexico;
(11) southwest New Mexico ground water issues;
(12) the ISC structure and appointment process;
(13) regional and state water planning progress and issues;
(14) a Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District overview; federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 challenges; water operations in the middle valley; a report on levees in the middle Rio Grande; a Rio Grande Compact litigation update; and municipal issues;
(15) priority administration progress on water rights adjudications and active water resource management rules;
(16) interbasin transport of water and area of origin protection;
(17) water utility governance issues;
(18) Colorado River contingency planning and outlook;
(19) reports required by statute from the state engineer and the ISC;
(20) agriculture resilience planning and development;
(21) Senate Memorial 127 and House Memorial 95 (both from the 2017 regular session) — electric power rates, rural electric cooperatives and the energy sector;
(22) changes in federal administration concerning water and environmental policies;
(23) a Kirtland Air Force Base fuel spill update;
(24) a Carlsbad brine well collapse update; and
(25) oil and gas industry issues.

For the 2018 interim, the committee proposed to focus on:

(1) topics concerning energy, including:
- an update on the New Mexico Energy Roadmap and its implementation;
- issues regarding energy generation and electric transmission, including an overview and updates from the New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority;
- issues regarding the oil and gas industry;
- issues regarding energy efficiency best practices and incentives;
- the closure and reclamation of the San Juan Generating Station, including transition planning;
- updates from the wind and solar energy industries, including community solar;
- the Renewable Portfolio Standard;
- the effect of energy regulations on the development of the energy industry;
- the report regarding the Escalante Generating Station pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 41; and
- the report from the Clean Energy Policy Task Force pursuant to 2018 Senate Memorial 97;

(2) topics concerning wildlife, including:
- issues regarding game, fish and other wildlife management missions, policies, practices and funding;
- the State Game Commission, including its mission, structure and royalty rate;
- management of wild horses, wolves, the meadow jumping mouse and other animals; and
- wildlife rehabilitation;

(3) topics concerning water, including:
- issues regarding forest and watershed restoration and management;
- issues regarding storm water and wastewater;
- issues regarding water supply and pollution;
- issues regarding inter-basin water transfer projects;
- issues regarding the interstate rivers, including:
  - updates regarding Rio Grande Compact litigation; and
  - updates regarding Arizona Water Settlements Act/Gila River diversion;

Thirty-Third Biennial Report - New Mexico Legislative Council and Legislative Council Service
July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018
30 issues regarding the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority water utility governance pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 102;
   a report from the Office of the State Engineer;
   reports required by statute from the ISC, including reports on the updates to the state water plan, the New Mexico Unit Fund and the strategic water reserve;
   the report pursuant to 2017 House Memorial 1 from the ISC task force on state and regional water planning programs and processes;
   the Navajo water settlement;
   the San Juan-Chama diversion and its effect on water supplies in Santa Fe, Taos and Albuquerque;
   the State Land Office and water for oil and gas operations;
   funding for flood control projects and flood emergency preparedness;
   updates from regional water authorities, including conservation efforts;
   acequias and mutual domestic water associations and mechanisms to fund both;
   ways to assist rural communities facing water scarcity; and
   aquifer mapping and consolidation of mapping data; and
(4) other topics concerning natural resources, including:
   issues regarding mining, including the Copper Flat Mine;
   an update on the remediation of the Carlsbad brine well and the expenditure of funds appropriated;
   updates on the chromium plume cleanup at Los Alamos;
   the development, promotion and coordination of outdoor recreation;
   state park fees;
   proposed taxes and tax credits, including an excise tax on outdoor recreational gear and tax credits for restoration or conservation of land or other natural resources;
   climate change;
   trucking industry regulations and their impacts on the agricultural industry;
   an update on the Resilience in New Mexico Agriculture Strategic Plan;
   the report required by statute from the Rio Grande Trail Commission; and
   the report regarding state agency decision making that affects the environment pursuant to 2018 Senate Memorial 94.
SUBCOMMITTEES, TASK FORCES AND SPECIAL INTERIM BODIES
Behavioral Health Subcommittee 
2017

The Behavioral Health Subcommittee of the LHHS was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on June 5, 2017.

For the 2017 interim, the subcommittee proposed to:

(1) review the state's capacity to meet the demand for behavioral health services statewide through private, Medicaid and non-Medicaid state agency behavioral health coverage and programs for adults and children; and

(2) focus considerably on the ongoing substance use disorder crisis statewide and the incidence and available treatment options for other major behavioral health conditions.

Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee 
2017, 2018

The Criminal Justice Reform Subcommittee of the CCJ was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council for the current biennium on June 28, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018. The subcommittee, which has bipartisan leadership, proposed for both the 2017 and 2018 interims to focus on reforms to the state's Criminal Code and the state's criminal justice system.
Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee
2017

The Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee is created in Section 2-13-3.1 NMSA 1978 as a permanent subcommittee of the LHHS and is charged with a continuing study of the programs, agencies, policies, issues and needs relating to individuals with disabilities.

For the 2017 interim, the subcommittee proposed to continue its review of issues relating to public and private disability rights, supports, services and employment. In addition, the subcommittee proposed to review recent proposals to change laws relating to the protection of residents and their property.

Public School Capital Outlay Oversight Task Force
2017, 2018

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.

For the 2017 interim, the task force proposed to:

1. monitor the progress and effectiveness of programs administered pursuant to the Public School Capital Outlay Act and the Public School Capital Improvements Act in terms of the continued implementation of the district court's order in the Zuni lawsuit;

2. in light of implementation of Laws 2015, Chapter 63 (Section 7-27-14 NMSA 1978) and the judge's order in the Zuni lawsuit, monitor existing permanent revenue streams to determine whether they remain adequate long-term funding sources for public school capital projects;

3. monitor 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; and

4. review provisions of public school capital outlay legislation and related administrative rules and make recommendations for changes as necessary.

In addition, the task force proposed to address and make recommendations for appropriate legislation on:

1. issues relating to charter school facilities, including:
   ♦ progress in charter school utilization of public buildings in compliance with the statutory deadline;
   ♦ accountability for charter school and school district use of state-funded lease
payments, including ongoing lease payment expenses versus capital outlay needs, especially in light of drastically reduced funding available for public school capital outlay funding; and

- consideration and clarification of ownership of charter school facilities that have been purchased by a foundation established for that purpose and paid for with Public School....
Capital Outlay Fund dollars that were allocated by the Public School Capital Outlay Council if the charter school occupying the facilities loses its charter or closes for any other reason;

(2) the inclusion of teacherages in the standards-based process;

(3) updating the funding formula for calculation of the state-local match of the Public School Capital Outlay Act formula (Section 22-24-5 NMSA 1978) and for gradual implementation of the replacement formula over a period of several years;

(4) the continued inclusion in the standards-based process of the New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the New Mexico School for the Deaf;

(5) issues related to public school district disposal of abandoned real property or real property that is no longer suitable for a school district's use as classroom spaces for students;

(6) updating the chart of accounts in the area of maintenance in order to allow use of school district maintenance data to make informed policy decisions regarding expenditure of these funds; and

(7) school district data that illustrate the amount of deeded land available for taxing purposes versus other lands, such as federal, that are not taxable.

For the 2018 interim, the task force proposed to:

(1) monitor the progress and effectiveness of programs administered pursuant to the Public School Capital Outlay Act and the Public School Capital Improvements Act in terms of the continued implementation of the district court's order in the Zuni lawsuit;

(2) monitor public school facility conditions and revenue streams and their long-term adequacy for public school capital projects;

(3) monitor the overall progress of bringing all public school facilities up to the statewide adequacy standards developed pursuant to provisions in the Public School Capital Outlay Act;

(4) review provisions of public school capital outlay legislation and related administrative rules and make recommendations for changes as necessary; and

(5) address the following related issues and make recommendations for appropriate legislation:

- progress by the Public School Capital Outlay Council and Public School Facilities Authority in the development and implementation of a school security project grant program initiative pursuant to Section 22-24-4.7 NMSA 1978;

- implementation of pre-kindergarten programs and capital outlay funding needs;

- inclusion of teacherages in the standards-based process;

- successes, challenges and opportunities for improvement of the "systems" awards process;

- changes to the standards-based awards weight and ranking methodology;

- changes to the state-local match funding formula;

- progress of the Broadband Deficiencies Correction Program and areas of the state still in need of information technology infrastructure improvement; and

- issues relating to charter school facilities, including:
location or relocation of charter schools into existing school and public facilities — opportunities and obstacles;

○ pros and cons of requiring the use of standardized leases;

○ lease-with-option-to-purchase agreements — when to use them, best practices and lessons learned; and

○ governance of charter school foundations and facility/property ownership issues.

**Senate Rules Committee**

*2017, 2018*

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**Staff**

provided by the Senate Chief Clerk's Office

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**

*2017, 2018*

The Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee of the New Mexico Legislative Council was created by the council for the current biennium on June 5, 2017 and again on April 26, 2018. During the 2017 interim, the subcommittee proposed to review and discuss:

1. an update on the status of the state's transportation system;
(2) the projected shortfalls in transportation funding versus the needs for maintenance and demand for new system capacity;

(3) an update from the New Mexico Municipal League and the New Mexico Association of Counties on their transportation system projections;

(4) the number of states that have recently reconfigured their transportation funding systems and the methods they have used;

(5) various proposals to address transportation funding at the federal level and the possible effects of those proposals on New Mexico (e.g., converting major interstate highways to toll roads);

(6) potential incentives to promote freight rail from Albuquerque to Santa Fe and Las Vegas;

(7) options to manage the balloon payments for the Rail Runner debt in fiscal years 2025 and 2026;

(8) the benefits and detriments of bonding against any potential new revenue sources;

(9) continued examination of transportation infrastructure needed for economic expansion;

(10) the potential to implement the recommendations reported in response to House Memorial 96 from the 2016 legislative session for the creation of trucking centers on Interstate 10 and Interstate 40;
(11) examination of the effects on the state's economy of not having an in-state only north-south route from Santa Teresa to Las Cruces;
(12) lessons learned about successful freight rail nodes around the country that could be used to expand the connections from the Albuquerque-Rio Rancho-Los Lunas business area to the BNSF Transcon line as part of manufacturing business recruitment;
(13) an update on development of a BNSF trans-modal node in McKinley County;
(14) methods to capture a "user fee" that would be equivalent to the gasoline tax for electric vehicles;
(15) the growth in demand for inter-city assisted travel options for seniors and the projected ability of state, local governments and the private sector to meet that demand; and
(16) an examination of the potential demands placed on the state's road system by the testing and eventual marketing of autonomous vehicles and any statutory changes needed to account for autonomous vehicles.

For the 2018 interim, the subcommittee proposed to review and discuss:
(1) an update on the status of the state's transportation system;
(2) transportation funding availability versus needs for maintenance and demand for new system capacity;
(3) options and proposals to address transportation funding and finance needs, including vehicle use fees from electric vehicles, local government revenue options and extended financing for debt payments associated with the New Mexico Rail Runner;
(4) issues associated with access, maintenance and upgrades to state roads crossing tribal and allottee lands;
(5) updates on federal transportation funding proposals;
(6) transportation infrastructure needed for economic expansion;
(7) benefits and challenges of potential autonomous vehicle use in New Mexico and proposals to modify state statutes to authorize and regulate such use;
(8) New Mexico's development as an international commercial logistics hub, including:
  ♦ New Mexico's competitiveness with other states;
  ♦ the potential to establish scalable rail and trucking logistics locations in communities around the state; and
  ♦ methods to leverage logistics locations into a diversified economy;
(9) an update from the New Mexico Municipal League and the New Mexico Association of Counties on their transportation system projections; and
(10) safety concerns associated with the transportation of radioactive and hazardous materials.
APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES
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 (GSD) 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 GSD 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:

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 an annual report of its work that may be found at www.nmlegis.gov.

## Commission on Uniform State Laws

### CUSL Membership 2017
- **Legislative**
  - Rep. Zachary J. Cook, Ruidoso
  - Sen. Cisco McSorley, Albuquerque
  - Sen. William H. Payne, Albuquerque
- **Public**
  - Jack Burton
  - Philip Larragoite
  - Raymond G. Sanchez
  - Paula Tackett

### CUSL Membership 2018
- **Legislative**
  - Rep. Zachary J. Cook, Ruidoso
  - Sen. Cisco McSorley, Albuquerque
  - Sen. William H. Payne, Albuquerque
- **Public**
  - Jack Burton
  - Philip Larragoite
  - Raymond G. Sanchez
  - Paula Tackett

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

### CUSL Membership 2017
- **Legislative**
  - Rep. Zachary J. Cook, Ruidoso
  - Sen. Cisco McSorley, Albuquerque
  - Sen. William H. Payne, Albuquerque
- **Public**
  - Jack Burton
  - Philip Larragoite
  - Raymond G. Sanchez
  - Paula Tackett

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.

**Additional Appointments**

In addition to interim committee work, members of the legislature served by appointment on committees and task forces of organizations such as the 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.
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;
- capital outlay project drafting and research;
- 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
- information technology (IT) services and support, including website and network development and maintenance.

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 and in electronic form via the legislature's website. A list of 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, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Anaya</td>
<td>Print Service Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Boller</td>
<td>Senior Staff Attorney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Bond</td>
<td>Research Assistant I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raúl E. Burciaga</td>
<td>Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Caldwell</td>
<td>Computer Specialist I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurie Canepa</td>
<td>Senior Legislative Librarian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawna Casebier</td>
<td>Staff Attorney I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Staff Changes — July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018

Additions

In 2016
Nancy Martinez was hired as a word processor I on August 13, 2016.

In 2017
Angela Malcolm Stucker was hired as a proofreader I on April 8, 2017.
Moya Melody was hired as a library assistant on August 12, 2017.
Randall Cherry was hired as a staff attorney I on September 9, 2017.
Isaiah Rivera was hired as a print service operator I on October 10, 2017.

In 2018
Erin Bond was hired as a research assistant I on May 19, 2018.
Anthony Montoya was hired as a bill drafter I on May 19, 2018.
Lenaya Montoya was hired as a bill drafter I on May 19, 2018.
Christopher Pommier was hired as a bill drafter I on May 19, 2018.
Sara Wiedmaier was hired as a research assistant I on June 4, 2018.

Promotions

In 2017
Carrie McGovern was promoted to editor on April 8, 2017.
Anesa Serna-Espinosa was promoted to financial assistant III on May 20, 2017.
Laurie Canepa was promoted to senior legislative librarian on July 15, 2017.
Leonard Granados was promoted to computer specialist I on September 9, 2017.
Jeret Fleetwood was promoted to researcher II on October 21, 2017.
Michelle Jaschke was promoted to researcher II on October 21, 2017.

Resignations and Retirements

In 2016
Krystin Rios resigned from her position as a word processor II on July 22, 2016.
Douglas Carver resigned from his position as a staff attorney II on August 29, 2016.

In 2017
Shawn Mathis resigned from her position as a staff attorney II on January 6, 2017.
Lisa Sullivan resigned from her position as a staff attorney II on January 11, 2017.
Pamela Jensen retired from her position as editor on April 29, 2017.
Gordon Meeks retired from his position as a bill drafter II on May 31, 2017.
Renée Gregorio retired from her position as a researcher II on June 30, 2017.
Sharon Ball retired from her position as a researcher III on December 31, 2017.

In 2018
John Yaeger retired from his position as assistant director/legislative affairs on January 31, 2018.

Special Notes

Perhaps if it had been in John Yaeger's nature to call attention to himself and his work, LCS staffers would have been less surprised to feel the ground shift when he announced his retirement in 2017. In his decades as the under-the-radar assistant director for legislative affairs, John's work ran the gamut from responding to legislators' widely varying requests to untangling parliamentary knots during floor debates to overseeing the LCS's public interface through its website and publications. His journalism background and public relations savvy were invaluable when dealing with media inquiries into legislative doings and misdoings over the years. He also handled a flood of public records requests...
prompted by an outcry for greater government transparency, and he sometimes had to stand between the media and the statutorily confidential information they sought. John deftly imposed his journalist's taste for succinct language when presented with unclear LCS writing, and while it may be mere staff legend that he once entirely reworked a piece and left only and and the untouched, his editing eye was undeniably keen. Though he was not an attorney, John was often mistaken for one, as he was a wonk on house and senate rules, parliamentary procedure and the state's constitution in its many iterations. And like a wonk more interested in his work than the trappings of his position, John kept an unpretentious office for years, his computer monitor balanced on a stack of phone books until the internet rendered phone books extinct. His office eventually changed after his children were born, the wonk aesthetic crowded out by their whimsical artwork and photos of far-flung family excursions. John's retirement brings him more time to better indulge not only his young family but also his wanderlust. After wearing out one camper van while he was still tethered to the legislature's schedule, one can only imagine how many more he will exhaust now that his time is his own.

It is only slight hyperbole to say that Sharon Ball, who worked at the LCS for more than a decade, is one of only a half-dozen people who understand and can clearly explain New Mexico's convoluted formulas for public school operational and capital outlay funding. Her knowledge came firsthand; by the time she retired in 2017, she had racked up a long career as a classroom teacher depending on the funding formulas, a Ph.D. candidate studying the formulas, a university instructor teaching the formulas, a PED and LESC staffer analyzing the formulas and an LCS staffer demystifying the formulas for legislators. Given her long history with such arcane details, it is no wonder that Sharon's immediate goal after retiring was to watch every film recently nominated for an Academy Award, feet up, cat on lap. No doubt she will get a post-retirement phone call requesting one last consultation on public school funding, but only if her cat allows the call to go through.

Gordon Meeks, the last of the non-attorney LCS drafters, retired in 2017 as well. Before joining the LCS in the 1990s, Gordon worked as a policy analyst at the NCSL, experience that gave him a taste of, if not always a taste for, life in a legislative setting. Though he drafted legislation on various topics, he mainly focused on issues regarding the environment, utilities and water and natural resources.

While most legislative staffers psychologically prepare themselves for the battles that a session can sometimes bring, Renée Gregorio — who retired in 2017 after more than two decades with the LCS — went a step further. The black belt that she earned in Aikido and wore, if not on her person then certainly in her heart, steeled her through many years heading up the LCS capital outlay office. Renée preceded her stint as the "capital queen" with a few years as the LCS editor and ended her time with the legislature working in the LCS library. But it was in the capital outlay trenches that she left her greatest mark. Under her watch, the era of paper napkins with scribbled capital outlay funding requests came to an end, replaced by an orderly system centered on a database capable of producing a 400-page bill without any staff casualties. With her retirement, Renée finally is relieved of ever again typing the phrase "to plan, design and construct ...", and she can return to writing in her mother tongue, poetry.
Pamela Jensen began her career as an LCS proofreader in the paper-dependent 1990s and retired, in 2017, after moving the proofing office solidly into the twenty-first century. During her tenure as proofing office supervisor and editor, Pamela ensured that all proofers were given computers for online research, greatly reducing the need for hardbound, shelf-collapsing "comps". She studied website design and programming, then applied those skills to develop The Red Quill, an in-house online resource that replaced reams of annually updated and photocopied lists for everything from short title acts to committee staffing procedures. She moved New Mexico law into the new century as well with her push to make statutory references gender-neutral. Some of the office's Luddite ways persisted despite Pamela's best efforts; she served as the "zookeeper", deploying scissors and tape for weeks every year to update hard-copy statute files after each session adjourned. With her retirement and her move to be near family in Texas, Pamela can lay down her scissors, take a break from programming and switch the ink in her pen from proofreader-red to novelist-black. Her LCS colleagues look forward to reading the novel she began years ago.

LCS staffers were sad to learn in late 2017 that Bob Lange passed away. Bob had already retired, but he continued to work as a contract proofreader during sessions. His extraordinary calm, wry sense of humor and delightful chuckle are greatly missed, but his gentle baritone lives on as narration for the legislature's online video tours of the legislative process, capitol art collection and Clay Buchanan Gardens.

**Activities**

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

The **Legislative Drafting Manual**, which is published by the LCS, 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 county and receiving agency.

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 by law, and not even the fact that they have been requested may be divulged to anyone, except upon permission of the requester.

The LCS receives many requests for information or services other than bill drafts or information memoranda. The 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 thousands of information requests during the biennium that required enough staff time to warrant a separate file, the LCS also received information requests by telephone, email and in-person contact. The legislature's website, which handles a great number of information requests that were once handled by staff, received several million hits during the same period. Requests come from members of the public, 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.

- Committee Final Reports, Interim
- Constitutional Amendment Proposed by the Legislature in 2017 — Summary of and Arguments For and Against
- Drafting Manual, Legislative
- Economic Summary, New Mexico
  — a periodic review of economic trends and conditions in New Mexico and the nation
- Ethics Guide, Legislative
- Highlights
  ♦ of the Fifty-Second Legislature, Second Special Session, 2016
  ♦ of the Fifty-Third Legislature, First Session and First Special Session, 2017
  ♦ of the Fifty-Third Legislature, Second Session, 2018
  — 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 for 2017
  ♦ Health and Human Services Workforce Recruitment and Retention Incentives
  ♦ Capital Outlay: A Primer for 2018
- 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 Legislature
  — a booklet explaining the legislature and how a bill becomes law, prepared for legislators to give to constituents
- Piecemeal Amendment of the Constitution of New Mexico, 1911-2016
- Reports and 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)

*Bill Books*
♦ *House Bills*
♦ *Senate Bills*
♦ *Memorials and Resolutions*
♦ *Passed Memorials - House*
♦ *Passed Memorials - Senate*
♦ *Vetoed Bills* (with executive messages)

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

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

   *Capital Outlay Requests - House* (book)
      — lists of all capital outlay projects introduced by each member of the house

   *Capital Outlay Requests - Senate* (book)
      — lists of all capital outlay projects introduced by each member of the senate

*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-Second Legislature, Second Special Session, 2016*
Fifty-Third Legislature, First Session and First Special Session, 2017 — 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; the legislative anti-harassment policy; 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, as well as unofficial election candidate lists and lists of legislators' names, mailing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.
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 2016-2018 biennium include the following.

A. Wireless access.
The demand for wireless internet access continues to grow, 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, known as "BYOD" or "bring your own device", 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. A site survey was conducted to determine trouble areas, density and location of appropriate access points. A new, advanced Wi-Fi system was installed with a built-in wireless controller on each access point for redundancy to accommodate the latest Wi-Fi technology (802.11ac). In addition, 10 wireless access points were strategically placed for additional coverage.

B. Network infrastructure.
Network infrastructure underwent improvements, as most of the network switches and routers were replaced with new ones. Advanced anti-malware protection was added to the network infrastructure in 2018 to protect both servers and end clients against potential vulnerabilities. With the increase of spam traffic, a new anti-spam device was added to support the existing infrastructure, providing the end user a safer email experience. The combination of anti-spam and anti-malware improvements in addition to the added firewall security has improved the manageability, reliability and efficiency of the entire system. With the 10-gigabyte network in the data center and other intermediate distribution frames on other floors, a more stable and reliable network is in place for future growth and productivity.

C. Legislative website.
The legislature's website was redesigned during the biennium, and the new site went live on May 1, 2016. Several focus groups were convened to determine what site functions were being used most often and what users would be looking for in a new design. The redesign goal was to make the website easier to use for the public by adding features, making it more mobile friendly and adding to the data already available through the site. While the previous version of the website did not provide full data to users who accessed the site with mobile devices, the new website provides full data and functions across mobile, tablet and desktop environments, formatted to fit each device size. The keyword search feature was expanded to include agendas, minutes, handouts and publications. The Bill Finder reports and keyword searches have also been updated to allow a user to search across multiple sessions with a single search. Listings of actions on legislation were expanded to make it easier to understand for users who are unfamiliar with legislative abbreviations. Session calendars are now provided in a web-based format with indicators on the chamber calendars to show which item a chamber is currently considering. Twitter is used to alert users to agendas, publications and webcasts, with a feed located on the home page.
D. Servers.
Servers are constantly being upgraded 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 one-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 26 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, with additional storage up to 25 terabytes. A new storage appliance will have been installed and set up by mid-July 2018, replacing a legacy solution and providing newly enhanced features that will benefit the end-user experience and improve performance.

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 during the biennium that provides for disaster recovery, with the ability to spin up critical servers and an improved downtime window of four hours. 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.
With the increasing demand for bandwidth, the internet connection was upgraded in the previous biennium to an OC3 connection, and a metro ethernet connection was implemented to accommodate the user community, both public and private. A redundant internet connection was established in the current biennium to assist with any down time the primary internet connection might experience, especially during a session. Both internet connections have 100 megabyte download/upload speeds, which allow for internet traffic load balancing.

G. Webcasting.
Video and audio webcasting of floor sessions and committee hearings has been available on the legislature's website for several years. Starting with the 2015 regular session, the legislature has used a cloud-based webcasting solution to increase reliability, increase quality and decrease the load on the legislative network. During the 2016 regular session, the house of representatives passed a resolution to allow archiving of house committee and chamber webcasts beginning in the 2017 regular session. The senate followed suit in 2018. This has increased the number of views and provided constituents a more transparent legislative experience. A tweet is sent out automatically when a session committee or chamber webcast has started, with a link to watch the webcast.

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 websites. 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, and client system updates and patches were installed. All servers have been upgraded and patched with the latest operating systems and updates. The anti-virus/anti-spyware programs are being replaced with more current and secure programs.

J. Desktops.
The legislature consists of a mixed environment of laptops, desktop towers and tablets. A few virtual desktops are deployed among staff and legislators. These virtual desktops minimize costs and maintenance and give the user a desktop experience that maximizes accessibility of applications and peripherals while maintaining physical and data security.

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. A network security monitoring system is being actively pursued in a proof of concept to assist with detecting ransomware or illegal activity in the network. A next-generation firewall was implemented, keeping an intrusion detection system, and further security enhancements were added to the legislature's security plan. The LIS also monitors network traffic and logs to detect intrusions.

In addition to these projects and others that are included in the 2019-2021 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.

Joint Mail Room and Bill Room
During regular sessions, the joint Mail Room and Bill Room 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; and
D. any person who pays the amount specified by law.

The joint Mail Room and 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 joint Mail Room and Bill Room, is staffed by highly qualified operators. Even during the haste and urgency of the next-to-last legislative day, the LCS, together with the joint Mail Room and Bill Room, keeps materials, information and messages flowing smoothly.
Buildings and Grounds,
Capitol Art Foundation
and
Information and Tour 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, by policy, is responsible for the care, custody, control and maintenance of the 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.

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. Ongoing landscaping improvements include the replacement and addition of trees, shrubs and flowers.

The New Mexico Legislative Council is responsible for 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 AOC, 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 good will 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 mission and day-to-day operation, keeping 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 used 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 fine 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.

Information and Tour 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. Information and tour services, which are an important part of the duties of the LCS, are provided by two full-time employees and, during the peak summer tourist season, by college students hired as seasonal guides.

Tours are given for such varied groups as senior citizens, students, art collectors, architects, conference attendees 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, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia and France. 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; the Hall of History; galleries of the house and senate; the Wall of Honor, displaying the names of New Mexico's Medal of Honor recipients; offices of the legislators; committee rooms; the capitol art collection, including temporary rotunda gallery exhibits; 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.

To be well-versed in the history of the state and the operation of its government, the Information and Tour Services supervisor and the tour guides research New Mexico's prime legislative issues, cultures, current affairs, Native American history and the five state capitol that have housed the legislature. In addition, they research New Mexico art traditions and artists to provide comprehensive information about the capitol art collection. Information and Tour Services staff members field questions daily about state, city, county and federal departments, agencies and programs, as well as requests for printed materials and for information on the building and on local events. Staff members also maintain a catalog of the flora found in the Clay Buchanan Gardens surrounding the capitol, including the pollinator garden. Inquiries come in through phone, email and written requests, as well as in person at the reception counter located in the east ground-floor lobby.
## STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES
of the
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SERVICE

### Year Ending June 30, 2017

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<td>Net Appropriations</td>
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<td>Less: Due from General Fund (not received)</td>
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### Year Ending June 30, 2018

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5. PER DIEM AND MILEAGE.--

A. Per diem and mileage for approved travel or service in the interim that is required by the legislative council shall be in the amounts provided by law. Per diem shall be paid on a calendar day basis and shall be paid for each day of meeting, including meeting-related informational tours or field trips, and necessary travel for in-state and out-of-state meetings. A legislator who travels to [a location] or from a meeting one hundred or more miles from the legislator's point of departure on the same day of the meeting in lieu of necessary travel [the day prior to the meeting] and who claims per diem only for days of the meeting shall be entitled to one additional day of per diem. Only one legislator shall receive mileage reimbursement for each mile traveled in a privately owned vehicle or airplane. Staff travel shall be as provided for other state employees [except that as long as the law so provides], and out-of-state travel [will] does not require gubernatorial approval.

B. Subject to the availability of funds, a legislator may be reimbursed for attending interim committee meetings of which the legislator is not a member, provided:

   (1) the legislator obtains approval from the appropriate co-chair of the legislative council and that approval is communicated to the legislative council service [prior to the day for which the legislator will claim reimbursement];

   (2) the legislator is not reimbursed for more than [four] five such days of per diem and associated mileage during any one [interim] calendar year as authorized by this subsection, excluding travel days permitted pursuant to law and policy [except that for the 2011 interim, no legislator shall be reimbursed for more than three days unless the appropriate co-chair of the legislative council makes a specific exception to allow the legislator to be reimbursed for a fourth day]; and

   (3) the legislator complies with all other per diem and mileage reimbursement policies.

C. Subject to the availability of funds, a legislator serving in one of the following positions may be reimbursed per diem and mileage for up to the following number of days in one calendar year for performing administrative duties at the capitol: speaker of the house of representatives and president pro tempore of the senate, [eight] ten days each; majority and minority floor leaders, [six] eight days each; and majority and minority whips, [four] six days each.
ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY
January 15, 2018

It is the policy of the New Mexico Legislature that all persons who work for the legislature or participate in the legislative process, whether in the State Capitol or another legislative setting, be able to do so in an environment in which they are treated with dignity and respect and that is free from all forms of harassment or discrimination. Through adoption, implementation and enforcement of this policy and through continuing education and training, the Legislature will seek to prevent, correct and discipline any behavior that violates this policy.

**Harassment**

The Legislature prohibits harassment of any kind, including sexual harassment, and will take prompt and appropriate action in response to complaints or knowledge of violations of this policy. Harassment is any verbal or physical behavior that a reasonable person would find threatening, intimidating or coercive.

Harassment is a form of discrimination that is generally based on race, religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability, serious medical condition or spousal affiliation. Harassment generally involves conduct, comment or display that a reasonable person would find insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, demeaning or degrading or that causes offense, discomfort or personal humiliation or embarrassment to a person or persons.

Harassment can include such behavior as slurs, demeaning jokes or comments, innuendoes, unwelcome compliments of a personal or intimate nature, use of racial or ethnic epithets or racially offensive words or phrases communicated in any language, cartoons, pictures, pranks, hazing, stereotyping comments, derogatory descriptions or other similar verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct. It is not necessary that the behavior be intentional to be considered harassment. Harassment can be a single serious incident or a series of incidents over time.

Under the Constitution of New Mexico, legal action generally cannot be taken against members of the Legislature for their legislative acts. Harassment does not include conduct, such as heated discussions, pointed questioning and vigorous attempts to persuade, which is generally accepted as a regular and necessary part of the legislative process.

**Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment includes forms of harassment that can be quid pro quo (i.e., this for that) or a hostile work environment (i.e., intimidating, offensive or demeaning environment in which to work) and warrants separate emphasis. Complaints of sexual harassment will be evaluated using a reasonable person standard.
Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. submission to such conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of a person's employment;
2. submission to or rejection of such conduct by a person is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting that person;
3. submission to or rejection of such conduct by a person is used as the basis for decisions or actions related to the support or opposition of legislation or other legislative processes; or
4. such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with a person's work or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.

The following are examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment under this policy:

Verbal harassment - requests or demands for any type of sexual favor; repeated requests for a date; sexual innuendoes; suggestive comments; use of sexually offensive words or phrases in any language; jokes of a sexual nature; or "kidding", teasing and threats, any of which are unwelcome and sexual in nature.

Nonverbal harassment - distribution or display (including written, hard copy or electronic communications) of any graphic material, such as calendars, posters and cartoons, that is sexual in nature; or insulting sounds, leering, staring, whistling and obscene gestures.

Physical harassment - unwelcome physical contact, such as touching, tickling, pinching, hugging, patting, cornering, kissing, fondling and forced sexual intercourse or assault.

**Reporting Harassment**
A person who has experienced or observed harassment is strongly encouraged to identify the offensive behavior and advise the offender to stop and to report the harassment as provided in this policy.
Legislative staff in supervisory positions have a duty to report harassment as provided in this policy.
Early reporting and intervention have proven to be the most effective way to resolve actual or perceived incidents of harassment. Delays in reporting harassment can affect the ability to take appropriate action and resolve the matter. Accordingly, reports of harassment should be made as soon as possible after experiencing or observing the harassment so that prompt and appropriate action can be taken.

A legislative employee with a workplace harassment complaint may pursue the complaint with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and New Mexico's Human Rights Commission as provided by law.

Sexual assault should be reported to law enforcement immediately.
Confidentiality
A report or complaint of harassment and documents related to any investigation shall be maintained confidentially to the extent possible pursuant to applicable law, rule or policy, including the Inspection of Public Records Act. The expressed wishes of the person reporting or complaining will be considered in the context of the legal obligation to act on the allegations and the right of the respondent to obtain information.

No Retaliation
The Legislature prohibits any retaliation against any person who reports harassment or files a complaint or cooperates as a witness under this policy.

Complaint Procedure

Complaints against legislative staff
If the person alleged to have violated this policy is a legislative employee or working for the Legislature (including year-round, temporary or contract), the person making a complaint of harassment may report it to the employee's agency director, chief clerk or any legislative staff in a supervisory position. The person receiving the complaint shall promptly cause an investigation to be conducted and may delegate the investigation to a person with appropriate training, including an assistant or deputy director, a deputy chief clerk or outside counsel who is experienced in employment law and in the investigation of claims of harassment. Each complaint shall be investigated promptly, impartially and discreetly. The investigation shall begin within five business days of having received the complaint. The individual responsible for the investigation shall keep the complainant and respondent advised of the status of the investigation, notify them when the investigation is complete and advise them of corrective action to be taken, if any. Disciplinary action against a legislative employee who is found to have violated this policy includes verbal reprimand, written reprimand, suspension or termination. The complainant and the respondent may appeal within 10 calendar days, in which case an individual who is experienced in the investigation of harassment matters and was not involved in the initial investigation will review the investigation to determine if it is satisfactory or if further action is required. A record of each complaint and resolution shall be provided to and maintained by the Legislative Council Service.

Complaints against a person who is not a legislator or a legislative employee
If the person alleged to have violated this policy is not a legislator or a legislative employee (e.g., a member of the public, a lobbyist or a vendor), the person making the complaint shall report it to an agency director, chief clerk, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one of the floor leaders of the House or Senate or legislative staff in a supervisory role. The person receiving the complaint shall promptly cause an investigation to be conducted and may delegate the investigation to a person with appropriate training, including an assistant or deputy director, a deputy chief clerk or outside counsel who is experienced in employment law and in the investigation of claims of harassment. Each complaint shall be investigated promptly, impartially and discreetly. The investigation shall begin within five business days of having received the complaint. The individual
responsible for the investigation shall keep the complainant and respondent advised of the status of the investigation, notify them when the investigation is complete and advise them of the corrective action to be taken, if any. The complainant and the respondent shall be informed of the results and may appeal within 10 days, in which case an individual who is experienced in the investigation of harassment matters and was not involved in the initial investigation, recommendation or corrective action will review the investigation to determine if it is satisfactory or if further action is required. Disciplinary action against a member of the public who is found to have violated this policy includes any appropriate action authorized by law, including a protective order, removal from or denying access to legislative buildings or activities and notifying the individual's employer or clients. A record of each complaint and resolution shall be maintained by the Legislative Council Service.

Complaints against a member of the Legislature
If the person alleged to have violated this policy is a member of the Legislature, and the person making the complaint is a legislative employee or working for the Legislature (including year-round, temporary or contract), the person making the complaint may report it to the employee's agency director, chief clerk or any legislative staff in a supervisory position. If the person making the complaint is anyone other than a legislative employee, the person making the complaint shall report it to the Director of the Legislative Council Service or the chief clerk. If the complaint is against a member of the House, the person receiving the complaint shall report it to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the floor leaders of the House; if the complaint is against a member of the Senate, the person receiving the complaint shall report it to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the floor leaders of the Senate. The respective legislative leaders shall consult with outside counsel who is experienced in employment law and in the investigation of claims of harassment and determine whether the complaint should be investigated further. If any one of the legislative leaders or outside counsel determines that the complaint should be investigated further, the complaint shall be forwarded to an investigative subcommittee of the chamber's ethics committee within five business days. The investigative subcommittee shall retain outside counsel to investigate the complaint and submit to the subcommittee a report containing the outside counsel's findings, conclusions and recommendations regarding further action. The subcommittee shall determine whether probable cause exists to believe a formal charge is warranted. If the subcommittee determines probable cause exists, it shall cause to be prepared and presented a charging document to the chamber's ethics committee. The ethics committee shall hear the matter in accordance with its procedures and make a recommendation to the body. Sanctions against a legislator who is found to have violated this policy include reprimand, censure or expulsion. Sections 2-15-7 through 2-15-12 NMSA 1978; Senate Rules 9-13-1 through 9-13-6; House Rules 9-13-1 through 9-13-7; or Legislative Council Policy No. 16 shall apply to the process regarding complaints against legislators. A record of each complaint and resolution shall be maintained by the Legislative Council Service.

Implementation of This Policy
The Legislature will ensure that this policy is disseminated and posted on the Legislature's website, included in the appropriate employee handbooks and posted throughout the State Capitol. The policy
shall be reviewed at least once every two years. All legislators and employees must be trained on the policy for a minimum of four hours every two years by an individual or entity that specializes in harassment prevention.

A complaint of harassment or other information provided in support of the complaint that is found to be intentionally or recklessly dishonest or malicious will be deemed a violation of this policy.
NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE STAFF
CODE OF CONDUCT
April 26, 2018

Legislative employees are public servants and shall treat their positions as public trusts. They shall use their positions only to advance the public interest and not to obtain personal benefits or pursue private interests. Legislative employees shall strive in all their actions to conduct themselves ethically and lawfully to preserve the integrity and dignity of the legislature. Legislative employees recognize that appropriate standards of conduct change over time due to unforeseen circumstances. Legislative employees are encouraged to foster a healthy ethical culture by raising questions about and discussing appropriate standards of ethical conduct with their colleagues and supervisors.

1. Independence
   a. Legislative employees' professional loyalties are to the people of New Mexico, as represented by the legislature. Legislative employees shall not act in any manner that creates an appearance that their professional loyalties are divided. Other than their state compensation, legislative employees shall not request or receive gifts, compensation, money or other thing of value or promise of such that is conditioned upon or given in exchange for the performance of an act related to their employment or where it is known or reasonably should be known that the purpose of the donor is to influence the employee in the performance of the employee's duties. Legislative employees shall promptly report any offer of such to their agency director or chief clerk.
   b. Legislative employees recognize that the unique nature of their positions carries additional responsibilities not found in other employment. Therefore, legislative employees shall not engage in any other employment or activity that conflicts or interferes with their duties to the legislature, compromises their ability to effectively discharge their duties or otherwise adversely affects the performance of their duties. Legislative employees are required to disclose outside employment (Section 10-16-4.2 NMSA 1978). Legislative employees recognize that such conflicts or interference might arise in a variety of situations, including in the use of social media, appearances at public forums and volunteer activities. A legislative employee shall promptly consult with the employee's agency director or chief clerk if the employee believes that the employee's actions may cause such a conflict or interference.

2. Confidentiality
   Legislative employees necessarily receive or become aware of confidential information as part of their duties to the legislature and recognize that the free flow of such information to employees is critical to the work of the legislature. Therefore, legislative employees shall not use or disclose confidential information, including but not limited to personal or private information, obtained by virtue of their employment except as specifically authorized.

3. Use of State Resources
   Legislative employees recognize that state resources, including employees' work time, are public resources intended to benefit the public good. Therefore, legislative employees shall use state resources only to conduct state business, except for the occasional and incidental use of state resources that does...
not interfere with the employee's duties, including providing assistance at the direction of a legislator necessary to manage the legislator's other obligations while performing legislative duties as a citizen-legislator. Legislative employees respect the distinction between legislative and political activity and strive to assist legislators and other staff in recognizing that distinction.

4. Enforcement and Sanctions

   a. Legislative employees are advised that serious disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment may result from activity that violates this code of conduct, including its appendices.

   b. Legislative employees suspected of violating this code of conduct, including its appendices, shall be given an opportunity to present any relevant exculpatory evidence or mitigating circumstances regarding the accusation. Staff suspected of violating this code of conduct shall be afforded appropriate privacy and confidentiality during any investigation process.

Appendix A

Use of Legislative Information System Information Technology Resources

A. DEFINITIONS. As used in this appendix:

   (1) "access" means to read, change or enter data;

   (2) "information technology resources" or "IT resources" means computer equipment, hardware, software, databases, electronic message systems, communications equipment, computer networks, telecommunications circuits and any information used within the Legislative Information System network to support programs or operations generated by, transmitted within or stored on any electronic media;

   (3) "malicious code" means any type of code intended to damage, destroy, steal or delete a computer system, network, file or data;

   (4) "pirated software" means licensable software for which a license has not been purchased or legally obtained;

   (5) "pornographic or offensive material" means images, documents or sounds that are:

       (a) discriminatory or harassing;

       (b) defamatory or libelous;

       (c) obscene; or

       (d) threatening to an individual's physical or mental well-being; and

   (6) "security mechanism" means a firewall, proxy, internet address-screening or filtering program, or other system installed to prevent the disruption or denial of services or the unauthorized use, damage, destruction or modification of data and software.

B. POLICY. To encourage the effective and appropriate use of the legislature's IT resources, legislative employees shall not:

   (1) use IT resources except to conduct state business, although the occasional and incidental use of IT resources that does not interfere with the employee's duties and is not unlawful or inconsistent with this code of conduct is allowed;

   (2) upload or otherwise transfer out of the legislature's direct control any software
licensed to the legislature or data owned or licensed by the legislature without authorization from the manager responsible for the software or data;

(3) intentionally violate any software licensure agreement entered into by the legislature or copyright;

(4) access, attempt to access or allow others to access IT resources for which they do not have authorization;

(5) use IT resources to reveal information contrary to state or federal laws, regulations, rules, policies, procedures or contract terms;

(6) use IT resources to download or distribute pirated software or data, including music or video files;

(7) use IT resources to knowingly propagate malicious code;

(8) use IT resources to knowingly disable or overload any computer system or network or to circumvent any system intended to protect the privacy of IT resources;

(9) use IT resources to access, display, distribute, edit or record pornographic or offensive material except with the written permission of their director or chief clerk in order to fulfill legitimate job responsibilities. The unsolicited receipt of pornographic or offensive material, such as might be received through email, shall not constitute a violation of this provision;

(10) use IT resources to override or circumvent any security mechanism belonging to the state or to any other government agency, organization, company or individual; and

(11) use IT resources for illegal activity.

This code of conduct is adopted by the New Mexico Legislative Council pursuant to the Governmental Conduct Act (Chapter 10, Article 16 NMSA 1978) and, in addition to all the applicable statutory requirements, applies to all legislative branch employees.