

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

**August 10-12, 2022
Bataan Hall
University of New Mexico-Taos
115 Civic Plaza Drive
Taos**

The third meeting of the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee was called to order by Representative Christine Trujillo, chair, on August 10, 2022 at 8:57 a.m. at the University of New Mexico (UNM)-Taos.

Present

Rep. Christine Trujillo, Chair
Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino, Vice Chair
Rep. Gail Armstrong (8/10, 8/11)
Rep. Joanne J. Ferrary
Sen. David M. Gallegos (8/12)
Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez
Rep. Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

Absent

Sen. Martin Hickey

Advisory Members

Rep. Gail Chasey (8/10)
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo (8/11)
Sen. Linda M. Lopez (8/11)
Rep. Roger E. Montoya
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto (8/11)
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Sen. Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics (8/10)

Rep. Phelps Anderson
Rep. Karen C. Bash
Rep. Rachel A. Black
Rep. Micaela Lara Cadena
Rep. Rebecca Dow
Sen. Katy M. Duhigg
Rep. Miguel P. Garcia
Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson
Rep. Tara L. Lujan
Rep. Marian Matthews
Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero
Sen. Gregg Schmedes
Sen. Bill Tallman

Guest Legislator

Sen. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales

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

Staff

Andrea Lazarow, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Zander Dawson, Bill Drafter, LCS
Grace Balderamos, Proofreader, LCS
Hexuan Li, Intern, LCS
Laura Valdez, Facilitator, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and are posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Wednesday, August 10**Welcome and Introductions (8:57 a.m.)**

Representative Trujillo welcomed everyone to the meeting, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Welcome to UNM-Taos (9:11 a.m.)

Dr. Mary Gutierrez, chancellor, UNM-Taos, welcomed the committee to UNM-Taos.

Access to Pharmacy Care (9:16 a.m.)

Donald Godwin, Ph.D., dean, College of Pharmacy, UNM, spoke about the impact of chronic disease and the role that pharmacists can play in addressing the issue. Melanie A. Dodd, Pharm.D., associate dean for clinical affairs and associate professor, Pharmacy Practice and Administrative Sciences, College of Pharmacy, UNM, discussed the benefits of having pharmacist clinicians. Micah Lansford, Pharm.D., owner and pharmacist, Roden-Smith Pharmacy, Clovis, and Ashley Seyfarth, Pharm.D., owner and pharmacist in charge, Kare Drug, Aztec and Bloomfield, explained the challenges that they face as independent rural pharmacists. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=LHHS&Date=8/10/2022&ItemNumber=2>.

State Strategies for Prescription Drug Access, Cost and Pricing (10:08 a.m.)

Colleen Becker, senior policy specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures, provided an overview of the strategies that other states are using to lower the cost of prescription drugs. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%201%20NCSL.pdf>.

Controlling Prescription Drug Costs: Consumer Perspective (10:52 a.m.)

Jane Horvath, principal, Horvath Health Policy; Joseph P. Sanchez, Ph.D., New Mexico state director, AARP; and Barbara K. Webber, M.S., executive director, Health Action New Mexico, provided information on the high costs of prescription drugs. The presenters proposed creating a prescription drug affordability board to keep the cost of prescription drugs in check. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=LHHS&Date=8/10/2022&ItemNumber=3>.

Public Comment (11:46 a.m.)

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

Pharmacy Supply Chain Stakeholders: Wholesalers (1:06 p.m.)

Will Dane, director, State Government Affairs, Healthcare Distribution Alliance, explained the role that pharmaceutical wholesalers play in the pharmaceutical drug supply chain. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%204%20Wholesalers.pdf>.

Pharmacy Supply Chain Stakeholders: Pharmacy Benefit Managers and Insurers (1:31 p.m.)

Jonathan Buxton, director, State Affairs, Pharmaceutical Care Management Association, explained what pharmaceutical benefit managers do and how they fit into the pharmaceutical drug supply chain. Karlee Tebbutt, regional director, State Affairs, America's Health Insurance Plans, presented the health insurance industry's perspective on the issues in the pharmaceutical drug supply chain. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=LHHS&Date=8/10/2022&ItemNumber=5>.

Pharmacy Supply Chain Stakeholders: Manufacturers (2:04 p.m.)

Brett Michelin, senior director, State Government Affairs, Association for Accessible Medicines, outlined how generic and biosimilar pharmaceutical drugs can be low-cost alternatives to name-brand pharmaceutical drugs. Katelin Lucariello, director, State Policy, Rocky Mountain Region, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, provided the

pharmaceutical manufacturers' perspective on the issues causing the high cost of pharmaceutical drugs. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=LHHS&Date=8/10/2022&ItemNumber=6>.

Primary Care Clinic Challenges (2:39 p.m.)

David Roddy, health policy director, New Mexico Primary Care Association, provided an overview of the primary care industry in New Mexico. The presentation explained the challenges that primary care clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers are confronting. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%207%20NM%20Primary%20Care%20Assoc.pdf>.

Medicaid Cost Savings Initiatives (3:05 p.m.)

Alanna Dancis, C.N.P., medical director, Medical Assistance Division, Human Services Department, provided a presentation on the New Mexico Medicaid Pharmacy Program. The presentation outlined some of the ongoing Medicaid programs that are focused on lowering prescription drug prices. Potential new Medicaid initiatives were also discussed. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%208%20Medicaid.pdf>.

Brainstorming Session (3:22 p.m.)

Representative Trujillo led the committee in a brainstorming session focused on thinking of ideas for potential legislation that could lower the cost of prescription drugs for New Mexicans.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 5:07 p.m.

Thursday, August 11

Reconvene

The meeting reconvened at 9:04 a.m.

Update: Wholesale Drug Importation Plan (9:05 a.m.)

Aryan Showers, policy director, Department of Health (DOH), began by explaining that there is ongoing litigation between the pharmaceutical industry and the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the United States Food and Drug Administration that is blocking states from moving forward with pharmaceutical drug importation plans. Russell Toal, superintendent, Office of Superintendent of Insurance, provided an overview of some of the initiatives that New Mexico is undertaking to make prescription drugs more

affordable. Courtney Lovato, R.Ph., pharmacy director, Public Health Division, DOH, explained the status of the drug importation plan on the federal level. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%209%20Wholesale%20Importation.pdf>.

All-Payer Claims Database (9:44 a.m.)

Kenneth Geter, Ph.D., bureau chief, Community and Health Systems Epidemiology Bureau, Epidemiology and Response Division, DOH, explained the benefits that an all-payer claims database can provide to doctors and patients. The presentation included an overview of the all-payer claims database implementation process. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%2010%20All%20Payer%20DOH.pdf>.

The New Mexico Prescription Drug Price Task Force (10:09 a.m.)

Barbara L. McAneny, M.D., chair, New Mexico Prescription Drug Price Task Force; former president, American Medical Association; and chief executive officer, New Mexico Oncology Hematology Consultants, Ltd., provided an update on the progress of the New Mexico Prescription Drug Price Task Force. The presentation included some of the task force's preliminary recommendations. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%2011%20Task%20Force.pdf>.

Substance Use Disorder Treatment in Northern New Mexico (11:27 a.m.)

Lawrence A. Medina, M.B.A., Rio Grande Alcoholism Treatment Program, Inc., explained the need for substance use disorder treatment in Taos County. The presentation outlined potential programs that could expand access to behavioral health treatment in rural areas. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%2012%20Rio%20Grande%20ATP.pdf>.

Expanding Rural Residencies: Our Experience (12:11 p.m.)

Nora Lamartine, M.D., El Centro Family Health, Taos; Nicole Mandall, M.P.H., director of operational development, New Mexico Primary Care Training Consortium; John Andazola, M.D., program director, Southern New Mexico Family Medicine Residency Program; and Mary Alice Scott, Ph.D., associate program director, Southern New Mexico Family Medicine Residency Program, provided a presentation on rural family medicine residency programs that train primary care physicians to practice in rural New Mexico. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%2013%20GME%20Expansion.pdf>.

Public Comment (12:32 p.m.)

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

Update: Center on Alcohol, Substance Use and Addictions (1:11 p.m.)

Katie Witkiewitz, Ph.D., distinguished professor, Department of Psychology, and director, Center on Alcohol, Substance Use and Addictions, UNM, provided a presentation on the initiatives at UNM that address substance use and alcohol use issues in New Mexico. The presentation also outlined the academic programs at UNM that train behavioral health providers. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%2014%20CASAA.pdf>.

Office of the State Medical Investigator (OMI) (1:36 p.m.)

Heather S. Jarrell, M.D., chief medical investigator, OMI, and director of neuropathology and associate professor of pathology, UNM, provided an overview of operations at the OMI. She explained the challenges that the OMI faced during the COVID-19 pandemic. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/LHHS%20081022%20Item%2015%20OMI.pdf>.

Approval of Minutes (3:03 p.m.)

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, and without any objections, the committee approved the minutes of the May 24, 2022 and July 11-13, 2022 interim meetings.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 3:08 p.m.

Friday, August 12**Reconvene**

The meeting reconvened at 9:03 a.m.

Public Comment (9:09 a.m.)

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

Working Session (9:13 a.m.)

The committee began work on developing legislation aimed at lowering the cost of prescription drugs in New Mexico. The committee discussed the issues that are causing the high price of prescription drugs and potential solutions for those issues.

Working Session (10:30 a.m.)

The committee continued work on developing legislation to address behavioral health care needs in New Mexico.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.