



Legislative Priorities on Health Care 2010

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO

The League of Women Voters of New Mexico supports a health care system that provides a comprehensive level of health care for New Mexico residents and recognizes the need for efficient management of health care costs.

The LWVNM believes that any health system implemented should have the following:

- **Quality Health Coverage for All New Mexicans** - Every New Mexican should have full health care coverage, a benefit package that is at least equal to the best plan offered to state employees, and access to the services covered. Participation should be mandatory. Pre-existing conditions should not be excluded from coverage.
- **Effective Cost Management** - Cost management should increase the health care benefits that accrue to patients from any given level of spending.
- **Improvement of Health Care Quality and Safety** - A comprehensive effort to improve the quality and safety of health care in New Mexico should be launched and sustained with dramatically increased public funding.
- **Equitable Financing** - Reform should seek to reduce or eliminate cost-shifting across categories of insurance programs and payers, both public and private, and to make the distribution of financial burdens more equitable.
- **Simplified Administration**- Reform should include the development of standardized forms, minimization of complicated co-pays/deductibles, and assurances of timely payment to providers.

In the 2010 Legislative Session, LWVNM supports:

SB 34	Sen. Keller	Prohibit Certain Medicaid Cuts	We need to avoid any further erosion of health care in New Mexico
SJM 1	Sen. Feldman	Health Care Reform Working Group	Create a group to work on implementation of federal reform
HB 32	Rep. Picraux	Health Insurer Small Employer Definition	Allow self-employed people to buy health insurance at group rates
HB 106	Rep. Heaton	Small Group Rating Reduction	Limit the annual percentage rise in a group's rate

LWVNM opposes:

SJR2	Sen. Sharer	Allow Health Care Decisions	This would block implementation of federal health care reform.
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