



## Legislative Priorities for Health Care 2012

### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO

#### The LWVNM Position on Health Care

*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.

The League favors a national health insurance plan, but until one is in place, the League supports expansion and improvement of state and federal plans.

#### In the 2012 Legislative Session, LWVNM supports:

<b>SB 7</b>	Sen. Feldman	Establish a Basic Health Plan
<b>SJM6</b>	Sen. Ortiz y Pino	Low Income Health Program Study

#### In the 2012 Legislative Session, LWVNM opposes:

<b>SB 6</b>	Sen. Dede Feldman	New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Act This bill mandates that insurance companies be on the Board of the Exchange. This is a conflict of interest. The LWVNM does support the creation of an Exchange with a Board structure similar to the one in SB38/270 that was vetoed by the Governor in 2011.
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