

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tentative Agenda

**BUDGET COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE**

Tuesday and Wednesday, January 20-21, 2004

Roughrider Room, State Capitol

Bismarck, North Dakota

**Tuesday, January 20, 2004**

9:00 a.m. Call to order  
Roll call  
Consideration of minutes from the October 13, 2003, meeting

**MEDICAID PROGRAM STUDY**

9:05 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the Department of Human Services regarding:

- An overview of North Dakota's Medicaid program and services provided
- A comparison of North Dakota's Medicaid program to other states in the region
- A review of Medicaid eligibility requirements and access to essential medical services, including dental and optical services
- A review of the Medicaid payment system and utilization of Medicaid services
- A summary of the waiver process and approved waiver programs in North Dakota and other states
- A status report on plans to address changes to service payments for elderly and disabled (SPED) eligibility formulas pursuant to the Attorney General's letter opinion

11:00 a.m. Comments by other interested persons

**CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REPORT**

11:10 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the Department of Human Services regarding enrollment statistics and costs for the Healthy Steps program, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) Section 50-29-02

11:40 a.m. Comments by other interested persons

12:00 noon Luncheon recess

**PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS STUDY**

1:00 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Department of Human Services regarding:

- A status report on the prior authorization program
- An overview of the federal Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, including the impact on the state Medicaid program

1:40 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Insurance Commissioner's office regarding the status of the implementation and effectiveness of a program to assist low-income individuals to gain access to prescription drug assistance programs offered by pharmaceutical manufacturers, pursuant to 2003 House Bill No. 1399

2:20 p.m. Comments by other interested persons

### **NURSING HOME SURVEY PROCESS STUDY**

- 2:30 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the State Department of Health regarding:
- The department's responsibilities and efforts during the construction process to assist nursing homes in avoiding life safety code deficiencies
  - Possible duplication of services between the State Department of Health life safety inspections and fire inspections conducted by fire marshals or other local entities
- 2:45 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the North Dakota Long Term Care Association regarding:
- A summary of various legislation passed by states regarding the nursing home survey process
  - Insurance carriers who provide general nursing home liability coverage in North Dakota
- 3:15 p.m. Comments by representatives of nursing homes regarding the survey process, including experiences with the dispute process relating to deficiencies
- 4:00 p.m. Comments by other interested persons
- 4:45 p.m. Recess

### **Wednesday, January 21, 2004**

#### **BOARD OF NURSING REPORT**

- 9:00 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the Board of Nursing regarding the status of its study of nursing educational requirements and the nursing shortage in the state, pursuant to NDCC Section 43-12.1-08.2
- 10:00 a.m. Comments by other interested persons

#### **MANDATED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE ANALYSIS**

- 10:15 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the Insurance Commissioner's office regarding:
- Recommendations regarding the committee's responsibility to recommend to the Legislative Council a private entity to be contracted with for conducting cost-benefit analyses of future legislative measures mandating health insurance coverage, pursuant to NDCC Section 54-03-28
  - Expenditures for cost-benefit analyses for the 2003 Legislative Assembly and plans for a budget request for the cost-benefit analyses for the 2005-07 biennium
- 10:45 a.m. Comments by other interested persons

#### **COMMUNITY HEALTH GRANT PROGRAM REPORT**

- 11:00 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the State Department of Health regarding implementation of the community health grant program, pursuant to NDCC Section 23-38-02
- 11:30 a.m. Comments by other interested persons
- 11:45 a.m. Committee discussion and staff directives
- 12:00 noon Adjourn

**Committee Members**

Senators Judy Lee (Chairman), Robert S. Erbele, Tom Fischer, Ralph L. Kilzer, Tim Mathern, Russell T. Thane

Representatives David Drovdal, Joyce Kingsbury, Gary Kreidt, Ralph Metcalf, Carol A. Niemeier, Vonnie Pietsch, Todd Porter, Sally M. Sandvig, Gerald Uglem, Donald W. Vigesaa