A historic opportunity to continue New Mexico’s leadership in healthcare affordability

What is HB 400?
HB 400 starts the process of studying and designing an affordable healthcare plan that leverages our existing Medicaid program. This plan will use existing federal law to lift Medicaid’s income cap, allowing New Mexicans above the current cap to purchase affordable coverage through Medicaid.

This legislation directs HSD to conduct a comprehensive study on specific topics, including findings on needed costs, federal revenue, and effects on current insurance markets; to propose a design for the plan; and to present its findings to the Legislature for approval and appropriations.

D.C. and Oregon are already using this federal law to lift their Medicaid programs’ income caps: DC expanded its income cap to 210% poverty and Oregon to 200% poverty.

How would New Mexico pay for the plan?
New Mexico receives an almost 3-to-1 match in federal funding for our Medicaid Program. New Mexico can raise its current Medicaid income limit and the federal government will still match around 73% of the costs. For the remaining costs, participants will pay for coverage on a sliding scale based on their income. HB 400’s study allows HSD to determine federal, state, and enrollees’ costs required to support this plan.

Why do we need to pass HB 400 now?
The health of our families, communities, and economy depend on access to affordable, high-quality healthcare. Far too many New Mexicans are forced to go without the medical care they need because their current coverage options are too expensive. Our state is better off when more residents are insured—we rely less on expensive emergency services, alleviate the burden on healthcare providers, and ensure we all stop paying the hidden costs through higher insurance rates.
HB 400: “State Administered Health Coverage Plan”
Sponsored by Rep. Szczepanski, Speaker Martinez,

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HB 400 is supported by:

- NM Academy of Family Physicians
- Primary Care Advocates for Healthy Communities
- Committee of Interns & Residents (CIR/SEIU Healthcare)
- Strong Families New Mexico
- New Mexico Center on Law & Poverty
- Health Action New Mexico
- Casa de Salud
- NM Public Health Association
- NM Voices for Children
- Equality New Mexico
- Center for Civic Policy
- New Mexico Asian Family Center
- Centro Savila
- Lutheran Advocacy Ministry New Mexico
- El Centro de Igualdad y Derechos
- New Mexico Dream Team
- New Mexico Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
- League of Women Voters

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