



NEW MEXICO MEDICAL SOCIETY

William Ritchie MD, NMMS President 2016-2017



YOUR VOICE FOR MEDICINE 2017 Legislature - Count Down Begins - Week 8

[Week 8 of the NMMS legislative report](#) is available to download and review.

One more week remains in the session; the doors close at noon on March 18.

The two tax bills HB 202 and HB 412 are still active:

--**HB 202** - physicians have been removed so there would be no change to the current system of GRT on your practices.

--**HB 412** - this is a major overhaul of the state's tax system. Legislators have compromised by extending the start date to 2019. Each group (physicians, truckers, extraction industry, etc.) would have to argue their own case individually to get an exemption before the changes start in 2019.

Both bills are expected to get to the Governor. Because it is an extensive overhaul, the bets are on HB 412.

Please call the Governor at 505-476-2200 and leave a simple message regarding HB 412:

1. Doctors support a 1% equal tax on Hospitals and Doctors with revenues utilized for Federal Matching funds for Medicaid.
2. New Mexico must position itself for Medicaid Block Grants. The 2016 Medicaid fee reductions must be regained with the matching funds or physicians will continue at the current reduced Medicaid rate for many years.

Please ask your staff, patients, family and friends to call the Senate and the Governor with this simple message. Medicine needs to have unified voice - patients, doctors and hospitals together.

[\[Senate Phone Number List\]](#)

[\[Senate Email List\]](#)

[\[Governor website - comment letter page\]](#)

The **Non-Compete Venue fix (SB 82)** was passed today in House Health and Human Services as was (SB 90), the prescribing psychologist bill.

SB 145 - The Scope of Practice Act - will be heard on the Senate floor next. As before, please send letters to Senators using the pre-populated letter at [QualityHealthForNewMexico](#) in **SUPPORT of SB 145.**

If you have any questions, please contact me directly, Executive Director Randy Marshall at rmmarshall@nmms.org, your Councilor as listed below by component society, or reply to this email.

With best regards always,

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