



NEW MEXICO MEDICAL SOCIETY

William Ritchie MD, NMMS President 2016-2017



YOUR VOICE FOR MEDICINE 2017 Legislature - Short and Sweet Week 7

First, **thank you** all for the out-pouring of data provided to the office about how proposed changes to the tax structure would affect your practices. The specifics have been invaluable in making the case against some of the proposals.

However, we are not done. There are 2 more weeks of focus and action.

Priority 1:

[HB 202 - which amends Gross Receipts Tax collections, deductions, and computations - particularly on health care services](#) - was passed without recommendation by Senate Corporations & Transportation and now goes to Senate Finance Committee.

Please continuing **[calling your Senators](#)** and **[begin calls to Governor Martinez' office \(505-986-4300\)](#)** with the request to:

Support Health Care - Physicians, Hospitals, Nursing Homes, laboratories, and other health care providers and their patients - with a reasonable and equal tax, The tax collected should be used for federal matching funds. This will not only help the state's bottom line but will help to recover Medicaid cuts imposed this past summer, This will be especially important in NM with block grants on the horizon.

[NMMS Brief - HB 202](#)

[NMMS Brief - GRT](#)

Priority 2:

[SB-145 Scope of Practice Act](#) - is scheduled in Senate Judiciary on Wednesday, March 8. As before, please send letters to Senators using the pre-populated letter at **[QualityHealthForNewMexico](#)** in SUPPORT of SB 145.

[NMMS Brief - SB 145](#)

Other bills of interest coming up in Senate Judiciary include **[SB 318](#)** which prohibits smoking e-cigarettes in public and places of work and **[SB 319](#)** which prohibits sale of e-cigarettes to those 21 years and younger.

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,

William Ritchie MD
NMMS President 2016-2017
ritchiewl@nmortho.net

Component Society Councilors to NMMS

Chaves County Councilor
Virgle Herrin MD
(575) 937-3054
wonzayear@me.com

Cibola County Councilor
Arnold Valdivia MD
(505) 287-6500
arnievaldivia@hotmail.com

Curry-DeBaca-Roosevelt (C-D-R) County Councilor
Albert Kwan MD
(575) 794-1894
alkwanmd@hotmail.com

Doña Ana County Councilor (2)
Harry Bass MD
(575) 522-0330
Harrybass3@aol.com

Kamran Kamali MD
(575) 522-1931
ihealwithsteel@hotmail.com

Eddy County Councilor
Joe Salgado MD
(575) 746-4540
drsalgado@artesiamedicalcenter.com

Grant County Councilor
Amos Lash MD
(575) 534-0556
lashurology@gmail.com

Greater Albuquerque Medical Association (GAMA)
Councilors (5)
Mark Chiu MD
(505) 823-4411
mtchiu@eyenm.com

Annette Fontaine MD

(505)842-8171
afontaine@nmohc.com

Kirby Gabrys MD
(505)563-2800
gabrys@renalmed.com

Barbara McAneny MD
(505) 842-8171
mcaneny@nmohc.com

David Stryker MD
(505) 848-3730
davidwstryker@gmail.com

Lea County Councilor

Lenard Wagner MD
(575) 390-4079
lennywagner@aol.com

Lincoln County Councilor

Arlene Brown MD
(575) 257-7712
arlenebrownmd@gmail.com

Los Alamos/Rio Arriba County Councilor

Ben Neal MD
(505) 622-4234
childrenssc@cybermesa.com

McKinley County Councilor

Mary Poel MD
(505) 863-1820
mpoel@rmchs.org

Otero County Councilor

William Boehm MD
(575) 437-0598
drnone71@gmail.com

San Juan County Councilors (2)

Allen McCulloch MD
(505) 327-9111
allenfornewmexico@gmail.com

Todd Williams MD
(505) 327-1754
willia81@hotmail.com

San Miguel County Councilor

Nancy Wright MD
(505) 425-3566
njwrightmd@yahoo.com

Santa Fe County Councilor (2)

Lily Love MD
(505) 982-4848
lily.love@swentnm.com

Kristin Reidy DO
(505) 983-6613

kereidy@eyenm.com

Taos County Councilor

Jemery Kaufman MD

(575) 758-2224

jemsta.j@gmail.com

Valencia County Councilor

Richard Madden MD

(505) 864-5429

rmadden@phs.org

Learn More →

[800.748.1596](tel:800.748.1596) | info@nmms.org

316 Osuna Road, NE Suite 501 | Albuquerque, NM 87107



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