



Doctor of the Day

Thanks to those who have volunteered as Doctor of the Day since the opening of the Legislative Session on January 21st:

Dr. Alicia Gonzales Dr. Caline Cone
Dr. Diana Cardero Dr. Ivonne Veli
Dr. Sangmin Choe Dr. Montserrat Hernandez
Dr. Selena Gallegos Dr. Nora Kratz

If you're interested in volunteering as Doctor of the Day, please click [NMAFP Calendly](#) to sign up.

Insights from the NMAFP Legislative Survey 2025

The NMAFP extends heartfelt gratitude to all participants of the 2025 Legislative Survey. This year, we witnessed an unprecedented response, highlighting your voices from across New Mexico. The insights gathered have identified key priorities that will guide our advocacy efforts during the legislative session.

Identified Priorities

The survey responses established four priority areas:

- **Recruitment and Retention of Physicians:** The need to sustain and increase our healthcare workforce, emphasizing support for primary care residencies.
- **Medical Malpractice Reform:** Ensuring a just and equitable medical malpractice system is vital for protecting healthcare providers and maintaining access to care for patients.
- **Pharmaceutical Cost Containment:** Addressing the rising costs of medications is essential for improving patient access and affordability.
- **“Business of Medicine”:** Advocating for the permanent elimination of gross receipts tax (GRT) on medical services and increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates to help sustain healthcare practices.

Legislative Updates

In response to these priorities, the NMAFP will be monitoring and reporting on relevant legislation throughout the session. To date we are highlighting the following legislation:

Recruit and Retain Physicians:

SB 172: Immigrant Healthcare Workforce Development (Sen. Linda Trujillo)

Current Assignment: Senate Health and Public Affairs Committee

This bill would create the Immigrant Healthcare Workforce Development Act with the task to create an accelerated immigrant primary care physician readiness pathway.

SB 46: Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Sen. Linda Trujillo)

Current Assignment: Senate Health and public Affairs Committee

According to the bill's Fiscal Impact Report (**SB46 FIR**) "Senate Bill 46 enables New Mexico to join an interstate medical licensing compact, adopting its rules and bylaws. This would increase allopathic or osteopathic physicians' ability to achieve an expedited license to practice in New Mexico if they already held a license in another compact state."

Medical Malpractice Reform:

SB 176: Medical Malpractice Changes (Sen. Martin Hickey)

Current Assignment: Senate Health and Public Affairs Committee

This bill would make changes to the Medical Malpractice Act. The proposed changes are to:

- Require payments from the Patient's Compensation Fund to be made as expenses are incurred,
- Require 75% of the punitive damages awarded in a medical malpractice claim to be awarded to the State,
- Limit attorney fees in malpractice claims,
- Create a Patient Safety Improvement Fund

Pharmaceutical Cost Containment:

HB 78: Prohibit Discrimination Against 340B Entities (Rep. Elizabeth Thompson)

Current Assignment: House Health and Human Services Committee

According to the bill's **(HB78 FIR)**, House Bill 78 "proposes changes to the insurance code to prevent insurance companies from interfering with 340B-covered entities' ability to acquire, deliver, or dispense medication under the federal 340B program..."

Gross Receipts Tax and Medicaid Reimbursement:

We are currently analyzing rate increases proposed in the General Appropriations Act of 2025 (HB 141). We will provide updates in future NMAFP legislative reports upon verification of proposed reimbursement rates.