

Legislative Commission on Primary Care Workforce Issues

June 27, 2019 2:00-4:00pm at the NH Hospital Association –Conference Room 1, 125
Airport Road, Concord

Call in information:

(267) 930-4000

Participant Code: 564-395-475

Agenda

- 2:00 - 2:10 **Welcome and Introductions**
- 2:10-2:30 **SB 308 & budget & 308 ancillary bills that impact health
care providers** – Kristine Stoddard, NH Director of Public
Policy, Bi-State Primary Care Association
- 2:30-4:00 **Legislative Wrap-Up Session**
- Behavioral Health Legislation** - Maggie Pritchard
- Hospital Association** - Paula Minnehan
- NH Nurses Association** - Pam Dinapoli
- NH Medical Society** - Jim Potter
- UNH** - Mike Ferrara
- DHHS** - Leslie Melby

Next meeting: July 25

State of New Hampshire
COMMISSION ON PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE ISSUES

DATE: June 27, 2019

TIME: 2:00 – 4:00pm

LOCATION: New Hampshire Hospital Association (Rm 1)

Meeting Notes

TO: Members of the Commission and Guests

FROM: Danielle Weiss

MEETING DATE: June 27, 2019

Members of the Commission:

Laurie Harding – Chair

Alisa Druzba, Administrator, Rural Health and Primary Care Section – Vice-Chair

Mary Bidgood-Wilson, ARNP, NH Nurse Practitioner Association

Donald Kollisch, MD, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

Mike Ferrara, Dean, UNH College of Health and Human Services

Kristina Fjeld-Sparks, Deputy Director, NH AHEC

Jeanne Ryer, NH Citizens Health Initiative

Trinidad Tellez, M.D., Office of Minority Health & Refugee Affairs

Bill Gunn, NH Mental Health Coalition

Pamela Dinapoli, NH Nurses Association

Diane Castrucci, NH Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counselors Association

Guests:

Leslie Melby, NH Medicaid

Barbara Mahar, New London Hospital

Peter Mason, Geisel, IDN DSRIP Region I Medical Director

Thomas Wold, Portsmouth Regional Hospital

Kristine Stoddard, Bi-State Primary Care Association

Mike Padmore, Director, NH Medical Society

Paula Minnehan, NH Hospital Association

Maggie Pritchard, CEO, Lakes Region Mental Health Center

Jim Potter, Exec. Vice President, NH Medical Society

Leslie Melby, NH Medicaid

Meeting Discussion:

2:00 - 2:10 **Welcome and Introductions** – Laurie Harding – Chair, NH Commission on Primary Care Workforce Issues

2:10-2:30 **SB 308 & budget & 308 ancillary bills that impact health care providers** – Kristine Stoddard, NH Director of Public Policy, Bi-State Primary Care Association

2:30-4:00 **Legislative Wrap-Up Session:**
Refer to presentation “NH Legislative Wrap-Up Session.”

Behavioral Health legislation - Maggie Pritchard, Lakes Region Mental Health Center

NH Hospital Association - Paula Minnehan

NH Nurses Association - Pamela Dinapoli

NH Medical Society - Jim Potter, Exec. Vice President

UNH - Mike Ferrara, Dean, UNH CHHS

DHHS - Leslie Melby, NH Medicaid

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DSRIP Workforce Taskforce

SB 80, relative to membership on the board of mental health practice, applications for licensure by mental health practitioners, and insurance credentialing of out-of-state mental health practitioners and psychologists

- Long standing delays to license qualified applicants have deterred workforce recruitment; Lack of CMHC and CHC representation on MHP Board; Providers not paid for services provided by applicants pending licensure
- Bill passed House and Senate; Effective 60 days after passage
- Reforms:
 - Out-of-state applicants whose state licensure meets NH requirements allowed to practice in NH *not more than 30 days after application is received* by the board, pending final approval or denial MHP board must adopt rules to ensure timely review and approval of applications
 - Requires MHP Board to either request additional information within *15 days* or act on an application within *30 days of receipt of completed application*
 - Adds 2 new members to MHP Board who represent CMHCs and CHCs
 - Requires the Board to review complete applications *at least 10 days prior to its meetings*
 - Criminal background checks and fingerprinting forms

SB 180, relative to privileged communications under the law governing mental health practice.

- Current law prevents integrated care provided by mental health practitioners due to restrictions in statute on privileged communications
- Effective 60 days after passage
- Reforms:
 - Clarifies when disclosure of privileged communications is authorized under the law governing mental health practice
 - Adds federal privacy provisions (HIPAA and 42 CFR Part 2) allowing disclosure necessary for diagnosis and treatment

HB 113, relative to qualifications for and exceptions from licensure for mental health practice

- Current law restricts practitioners qualified to provide supervision
- Signed by Governor. Effective August 17, 2019
- Reforms:
 - Allows experience as a MLADC to qualify as experience for licensure as a clinical social worker or clinical mental health counselor
 - The bill clarifies the mental health license exemption for psychotherapy activities and services of psychologists and MLADCs

New Hampshire Hospital Association

SB 11 – Relative to Mental Health Services and Making Appropriations Therefore

- NHHA high priority bill to address ED Boarding Crisis
- Expends surplus funds for Designated Receiving Facilities (DRFs) and Voluntary Psychiatric Admissions – increases rates
- Provides funding for renovating DRFs
- Requires insurers to reimburse for emergency room boarding
- Ensures the sustainability of hospital DRFs and Voluntary IP Psych programs
- Bill passed and was signed by the Governor on May 21, 2019



New Hampshire Nurses Association

NH SB 273: Engrossed 6-13-2019

- **Title/Introduction:** SB 273 AN ACT relative to the regulation of nursing assistants by the board of nursing. This bill propose changing nursing assistance to being certified, no longer licensed.
- **Amended:** AN ACT relative to the board of nursing and establishing a committee to study the regulation of nursing assistants by the board of nursing and criminal history record check for nurses.
- **Committee established:** 1 member of the senate, 2 members of the HOR. Report is due November 1, 2019

HB 719:

- **Title/Introduction:** HB 719 AN ACT establishing the position of school nurse coordinator in the department of education and making an appropriation therefor.
- **Amended by senate:** Establishes the position within the division of learner support.
- **Role:** Coordinate and provide technical assistance to guide school nurses and other school personnel responsible for student health care in the areas of student health and wellness, safety, behavioral health and mental health and alcohol and substance misuse.
- **Appropriation:** FY 2020, \$109,000 and FY 2021, \$FY 111,000.

University of New Hampshire

UNH

- **Title of the bill:** “Infrastructure Revitalization Fund” included in HB2 (State Budget) as submitted by the Governor.
- ***What problem does this bill address:** This one-time funding would address workforce shortages in Nursing and Allied Health Programs through a combination of facilities expansion and program development.
- ***How will this bill impact the healthcare workforce:** UNH would double the number of students in nursing and health professions plus add a number of new programs (i.e. nursing as 2nd BSN degree, 2 NP programs).
- ***Outcome of the bill:** The legislature chose to remove the “Fund” in support of other priorities (including additional operating support for USNH). While not funded in this budget, the process of putting this proposal forward and advocating for it helped to further raise awareness of the need and the role UNH could play in addressing this issue.

Department of Health & Human Services

SB 5, Making an appropriation to DHHS for Medicaid provider rates for mental health and substance use disorder and emergency shelter and stabilization services

- Inadequate Medicaid rates for mental health and SUD services affecting sustainability of services and access to care. Last increase in rates – 2006.
 - Impact on providers' ability to recruit and retain workforce
 - Governor vetoed. Rationale: FY 20/21 budget provides rate increases. Senate sustained veto.
 - Comments:
 - \$3 million would have provided immediate relief to support MH and SUD providers and their clients. \$450,000 would cover emergency shelter and stabilization services for those with a substance use disorder.
- Note:** HB 2, sec 416 funds emergency shelter and stabilization services

SB 258, relative to telemedicine and telehealth services

- Access to providers has been limited due to restrictions on Medicaid coverage; Need for alignment between Medicaid and insurance statutes. Definitions needed for: distant site, originating site, remote patient monitoring, store and forward.
- Bill passed House and Senate
 - Medicaid provisions effective 60 days after passage
 - Insurance provisions effective Jan 1, 2020
- Brings NH statutes into the 21st century to improve access to rural areas, CMCH services, primary care, etc.