



NEW MEXICO HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
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Bill Richardson
Governor

Pamela Hyde
Secretary-Designate

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Senate Rules Committee Sends Human Services Secretary-Designate to Full Senate for Vote

Santa Fe, January 27, 2003 – Governor Bill Richardson’s choice to run the Human Services Department passes one hurdle in the Senate confirmation process today. The Senate Rules Committee, which consists of nine members (five Democrats and four Republicans), heard testimony from Secretary-designate Pamela Hyde this morning. It didn’t take long for all Committee members to approve Hyde with a positive recommendation for a vote before the full Senate tomorrow. If approved, she will become the first Secretary for the Human Services Department to be confirmed in more than five years.

Hyde has an extensive background in Human & Health Services. Since 1996, she has worked in Santa Fe as a Senior Consultant for The Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc., a national Non-profit firm. From 1991 to 1993, she was the director of Housing and Human services for the city of Seattle, where she streamlined and consolidated the delivery of services to children and the elderly. In 1990 Ohio Governor Richard Celeste appointed her as Director of the Ohio Department of Human Services, where she distinguished herself by developing proposals for reforming Medicaid and child support enforcement. She also served as the Ohio Director of Mental Health from 1983 to 1990, where she focused on community support, drug and alcohol treatment and behavioral health systems reform.

Hyde holds a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and a B.A. from Southwest Missouri State University. She was presented the Award for Distinguished Service to State Government by the National Governor’s Association.

The state Human Services department helps more than 600,000 New Mexicans each month improve their well being by leading an important array of support services.