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For Immediate Release

Remaining Cost Analyses of Universal Health Coverage Plans Presented to Committee Tomorrow in Santa Fe

**Report to include Estimated Coverage, Costs, Economic, Revenue, Legal
and Public Health Analyses of Three Universal Health Coverage Models**

Santa Fe, New Mexico, June 20, 2007 – The Health Coverage for New Mexicans Committee (Committee), chaired by Lieutenant Governor Diane D. Denish will receive a final draft report from Mathematica Research Policy, Inc. (Mathematica) tomorrow, Thursday, June 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in room 322 of the State Capitol, 490 Old Santa Fe Trail in Santa Fe.

Mathematica's final report to the Committee will include its analyses of three health coverage models that bring universal coverage to New Mexico. The report and presentation will set out in detail estimated coverage, costs, economic, revenue, legal and public health analyses for the three health care reform models and the state's current system of health care.

The 23-member Committee and four advisors appointed by the Governor and the Legislative leadership selected the three models for analysis from several presented to them last autumn. The models are:

1. The Health Security Plan, which is a single plan administered by a commission appointed by the Governor;
2. The New Mexico Health Choices Plan, which is a market-based universal coverage plan that would utilize vouchers provided to individuals; and
3. The New Mexico Health Coverage Plan, which is also a market-based approach that preserves roles for both public and private health care systems and includes a requirement that everyone obtain insurance while maintaining a role for employers.

The Committee will begin to discuss "next steps" following Mathematica's presentation on Thursday and will spend all day Friday to fulfill its charge of reporting to the Governor and Legislature recommendations to move forward.

Both meetings are open to the public and include opportunities for public input. The final draft report, presentations, and the agendas for both meetings can be found at <http://insurenemexico.state.nm.us/HCNMC.html>.

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