

SENATE BILL NO. 348—SENATOR CANCELA

MARCH 20, 2017

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Establishes the Health Care Funding and Pricing Task Force. (BDR 40-628)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to health care; requiring the Governor to impanel a Health Care Funding and Pricing Task Force; prescribing requirements governing the procedure of the Task Force; requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to provide certain facilities and services to the Task Force; prescribing the duties of the Task Force; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

1 Existing law requires the Department of Health and Human Services to  
2 administer Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program to provide  
3 health insurance to persons of low income. (NRS 422.270) **Section 3** of this bill  
4 requires the Governor to impanel a Health Care Funding and Pricing Task Force.  
5 **Section 3** provides for the selection of members of the Task Force by the Governor,  
6 the Majority Floor Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly. **Section**  
7 **4** of this bill: (1) prescribes requirements governing the procedure of the Task  
8 Force; and (2) requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide  
9 certain facilities and services to the Task Force. **Section 5** of this bill prescribes the  
10 duties of the Task Force.



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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** Chapter 439B of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.

**Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the term "Task Force" means the Health Care Funding and Pricing Task Force impaneled pursuant to section 3 of this act.*

**Sec. 3. 1.** *On or before July 1 of each odd-numbered year, the Governor shall impanel a Health Care Funding and Pricing Task Force.*

**2.** *The Governor shall appoint five members of the Governor's own selection and two members nominated by the Majority Floor Leader of the Senate and two members nominated by the Speaker of the Assembly to serve on the Task Force for a term of 2 years.*

**3.** *On or before June 15 of each odd-numbered year, and within 30 days after the position of his or her nominee on the Task Force becomes vacant, each nominating authority set forth in subsection 2 shall submit to the Governor the name of his or her nominee to the Task Force.*

**4.** *If a nominating authority fails to submit a timely nomination of a person who is qualified pursuant to subsection 6 to the Governor pursuant to subsection 3, the Governor may appoint any qualified person to the position.*

**5.** *Each member appointed to the Task Force may be removed by the Governor for good cause.*

**6.** *The Task Force must consist of:*

- (a) Two representatives of consumers of health care;*
- (b) A representative of a nonprofit corporation for hospital or medical services licensed pursuant to chapter 695B of NRS that provides health coverage to residents of this State;*
- (c) A representative of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Medicine;*
- (d) A representative of a nonprofit hospital located in this State;*
- (e) A representative of the Department;*
- (f) A primary care physician who provides primary health care services in this State;*
- (g) A representative of a pharmacy as defined in NRS 639.0912, a manufacturer of prescription drugs or the State Board of Pharmacy; and*
- (h) A patient who suffers from a chronic disease.*



7. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a person appointed to fill a vacancy must be nominated and appointed in the same manner as his or her predecessor in office.*

**Sec. 4.** *1. The Task Force shall:*

*(a) Elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members at its first meeting;*

*(b) Adopt such rules governing the conduct of the Task Force as it deems necessary; and*

*(c) Hold such number of meetings as may be necessary to accomplish the tasks assigned to it in the time allotted.*

*2. The Department shall provide the Task Force with meeting rooms, staff, data processing services and clerical assistance.*

*3. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum and a majority of those present must concur in any decision.*

*4. The Task Force may appoint a subcommittee or advisory group to study or advise the Task Force concerning any matter under the jurisdiction of the Task Force.*

**Sec. 5.** *The Task Force shall:*

*1. Collect any data necessary to perform a comprehensive analysis of factors affecting the price of health care in this State, including both privately funded health care and health care funded through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, and perform such an analysis or cause such an analysis to be performed;*

*2. Compare the prices charged for publicly funded health care in this State with the prices charged for such care in other states;*

*3. In consultation with the Director, study ways to maintain or increase the percentage of persons of low and moderate income who are covered by a health plan, including, without limitation, establishing a basic health program pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 18051 and applying for a Waiver for State Innovation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 18052;*

*4. Make any recommendations to appropriate governmental entities, including, without limitation, the Legislature and the Department, that the Task Force determines would:*

*(a) Reduce the cost or improve the effectiveness of publicly funded health care; or*

*(b) Maintain or increase the percentage of persons of low and moderate income who are covered by a health plan; and*

*5. On or before August 1 of each even-numbered year, submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature a written report concerning the activities, findings and recommendations of the Task Force.*



1     **Sec. 6.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do  
2 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a  
3 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

4     **Sec. 7.** This act becomes effective:

5         1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of appointing  
6 members to the Health Care Funding and Pricing Task Force and  
7 performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are  
8 necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

9         2. On July 1, 2017, for all other purposes.

