

# JANUARY 6 2025 MEETING NOTES ( Linda Siegle)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### New members

Judy Perkins  
Nancy Katz  
Susan Mayes  
Marcelle Grant  
Dianne Thatcher  
Marlene Merritt

- Reminder - on our website, member section there are bios of many of our members. PW Together!
- Jan 11 Roundhouse Rally
- Reading On Tyranny - we'd like to send to legislators. New illustrated version. 20 lessons. You can hear him on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tocssf3w80>
- Financials - someone in DC who gives us over \$250.00 every month. We have 80% participation in activities
- We have monthly donors making monthly donors.

Rachel on Feb 3:

–March with Immigration coalition on behalf of their legislative agenda. RailYard around 10 or 11. People to go to the Capitol. Immigration advocacy will make rounds and go to office. We will go to every office in small offices. Delivering a goodie bag; SOS letter, (with bill numbers) will outline proposals:

Prohibits selling data the state collects from VMD on national origin, healthcare diagnosis. A.

Cedilla Lopez will be write this.

Prohibit use of public \$ for law enforcement to help with ICE (Senate)

Money for emergency legal aid. For families hit by breadwinners being abducted. Training regardless of immigration status.

Eliminate the anti- donation money clause. There will be two bills. Has to be a constitutional amendment.

–Cards to distribute to people - know your rights.

We are looking for people to donate food.

–Concern about Peter Wirth as he doesn't necessarily support immigration reform.

–Somos doing an issue based phone bank.

–Event in the Rotunda at 2pm by Marcella

–On Dec 30 we did a zoom on how we work with the legislators.

### LINDA SIEGLE

–Lobbyist of many years when she worked for HHS

–Her client base is health care, coalition against domestic violence, Santa Fe Public schools. But she works mostly on health care.

–112 legislators, 25 are new

–12 new members in house, 13 in Senate

–Senate Judiciary will have 5 new members Cervantes is Chair.

–R's in the senate are generally lawyers but no R lawyers.

- Carrie Hamblin will be chair of Tax
- Senate Finance: when you chair this you can't do any other committee. Linda Trujillo will be on this committee. Why is Cervantes so difficult and he doesn't let bills get heard?
- 60 days allows us to do a lot. League will do the independent redistricting again for A CA

#### Funds

- We have 250 M recurring and 3 B for non-recurring - this will throw off revenue to fund for things like early childhood fund. The early childhood is now HUGE. 6 B? BUT It has to be appropriated.
- Paid Family Medical Leave - will be the third. Fund pays the leave not the employer. Issues especially state funded organizations - home health, etc. Objection Govt funded agencies who rely on the govt for money. They say they don't have money to participate in paid family leave.

- May be a minimum wage bill
- Lots of crime bills

-DA in ABQ wants to do more for violent youth

-Medical malpractice act issues.

During Covid, the legis did massive reforms, which has been in existence since 1976. Created different levels of caps for different suits. Lots of tension between trail lawyers and health care people. Malpractice prohibits our ability to get doctors. Right now there are 8K ads for nurses every month and physicians. These positions are not getting filled. Another problems is that 43% of our people are on medicaid. 25% on medicare and others on employer insurance At least we've been able to get gross receipts off the provider. Legis raised the cap by trail lawyers and individuals. Part of the reason for making changes, to gt the out of state hospitals. Presby is local. Cap has been low for so low there was a move to make it higher. Eye Associates is owned by owned. Xray could not get it and Eye because they are locally owned. In this state, a person can sue a medical provider and go after their assets. True? Not really.

-On Healthcare

-Increase reciprocity? If you are an OT compact you can go to another state and not have to get a license. The only one we have is nursing compact. 30 states have this. If you move to that other state you must get a compact. The problem is the state never knows you are there. They have to prove to their employers, but we don't know.

LEGIS: speech, PT, and others this year. Objection: you give away your authority to the compact that originates it.

The compact is really for the practitioner.

-PSY contract was presented to CCJ killed both judiciary committees.

Longterm shortage to workforce shortage is to expand the education of NM students. Some of the hospitals have worked with the schools to hire the students when they are finished. We need residency clauses.

-Reena's bill, everyone could access medicaid. State would have to apply to federal (for a waiver). Depending on income.

Lovelace has 60 nurses that they want to hire they can't because they can't get visas. There was bill to get around compact issue: put into a statue - if a licensee comes to this state with a clean license. That board must give them a year license. This license is a year license. Medical board resisted but now following this. Medical compact won't pass because of abortion.

–About undocumented coverage - they pay the full bill charge. They will never be able to pay off. Why do hospitals continue to do this? A law was passed two years ago about hospital debt. They can't pursue a person for that debt. We do have indigent funds.

–Tobacco and alcohol tax. Alcohol hasn't been raised in 30 years. The argument is regressive. Legis putting tax on poor.

–Highlands University has started NP school. PA program in UNM There will be a new school. UNM did a comprehensive presentation about their plan to address their healthcare program.

WHAT IS YOUR WISDOM ON LOBBYING - know your legislators. Do it before or within the first couple of weeks. Also have knowledge and offer information and have expertise.