



**Steve Sisolak**  
Governor

**Dr. Ikram Khan**  
Chairman

**Sara Chalhagian**  
Executive Director

## **Patient Protection Commission**

Office of the Governor, State of Nevada

555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 5600  
Las Vegas, NV 89103

### **SUMMARY MINUTES**

**November 9, 2020**

Pursuant to Governor Steve Sisolak's Emergency Directive 006 as amended and extended by Emergency Directive 029, there will be no physical location for this meeting. The meeting can be listened to or viewed live over the internet. The agenda, minutes, meeting materials, and audio or video recording of the meeting are available on the Commission's meeting page or by request.

#### **Agenda Item I - Call to Order**

Chairman Khan called the regular meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

#### **Commission Members Present:**

Dr. Ikram Khan, Chairman  
Dr. Howard Baron  
Theresa Bohannon  
Bobbette Bond  
Jessica Flood  
Flo Kahn  
Dr. John Packham  
Yarleny Roa Dugan  
Shaun Schoener  
Dr. Anthony Slonim  
W. Mason Van Houweling

#### **Advisory Commission Members Present:**

Executive Director Heather Korbolic, Silver State Health Insurance Exchange  
Insurance Commissioner Barbara Richardson, Nevada Division of Insurance (Department of Business and Industry)  
Director Richard Whitley, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

#### **Commission Staff Present:**

Sara Chalhagian, Executive Director  
Gregory D. Ott, Chief Deputy Attorney General  
Lezlie Mayville, Administrative Assistant/Policy Coordinator

#### **Agenda Item II - Public Comment:**

Charles Duarte, Dementia Care Director for the Alzheimer's Association in Nevada. Their goal is to raise awareness around Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, and to increase the numbers of patients and caregivers who receive an early and accurate diagnosis. He would like to suggest the Patient Protection Commission consider the implications of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias on our long-term care and acute medical systems, as well as on the lives of those living with the disease or caring for someone with dementia.



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### **Agenda Item III - Presentation from Patient's about their health care experiences in Nevada**

Director Cholhagian informed the commission and the public of a new feature on the PPC website for patients to share their stories with the commission. There is now a tab located on the [ppc.nv.gov](http://ppc.nv.gov) website called "Patient Stories and Testimonials", she encouraged patient feedback and indicated she would routinely report on any submissions.

### **Agenda Item IV - Approval of the August 31, 2020 minutes**

Chairman Khan presented the Commission with a draft of the summary minutes of the August 31, 2020 meeting.

**MOTION** was made to approve minutes of the August 31, 2020, meeting as presented, by Commissioner Van Houweling. Commissioner Baron Seconded. Carried without dissent.

### **Agenda Item V - Opening Remarks - Overview of Agenda and Welcome**

Chairman Khan

Welcomed everyone to the meeting and wants to move along accordingly to finish by noon or before and would like all commissioners to engage.

### **Agenda Item VI - Update on Reports to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau**

Director Cholhagian

Reminded the commissioners that our next report is due on or before January 1, 2021. She invited commissioners to make suggestions for specific recommendations to include and indicated she would like to have a draft by mid-December prior to the Christmas holiday. Commissioner Bohannon indicated a sample outline of what would be in the report would be helpful. Director Cholhagian responded she would be happy to share an outline and would aim to send it by the following week. She further encouraged commissioners to reach out to engage at any time.

### **Agenda Item VII - Presentations of Commission's Ranked Priorities and Identified Top Priorities for Future Deliberation**

Chairman Khan

A discussion was held regarding the top priorities identified by the commission through a Priorities Indication Worksheet in which commissioners ranked their priorities and a summary of those ranking provided the following top four priorities:

- a. Review and examine the cost of health care and the primary factors impacting those costs
- b. Review health care workforce issues in Nevada and consider recommendations to improve access and delivery of health care
- c. Review the effect of any changes to Medicaid including the cost and availability of health care and health insurance in this state.
- d. Review the roles of the PPC and consider how to improve future coordination and collaboration efforts.

Each Commissioner had the opportunity to express opinions on the identified topics. The majority of the commissioners agreed to this ranking with no objections. Some suggestions were made including but not limited to licensure and reciprocity across state lines, loan forgiveness for medical students to keep them in the state because COVID is burning out health care workforce, currently in the midst of a shortage in workforce, identify



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groups that can help commission move forward with the data for APCD and continue with the Governor's request to review issues related to the health care needs of Nevada residents and the accessibility, affordability and quality of health care were mentioned.

### **Agenda Item VIII - Presentation on Nevada's Uninsured Population and Current Status of Health Insurance Enrollment Numbers**

- a. Meredith Levine, Director of Economic Policy, Guinn Center
- b. Suzanne Bierman, J.D., M.P.H., Administrator, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, DHHS
- c. Heather Korbolic, Executive Director, Silver State Health Insurance Exchange

Discussion, questions and comments to the presenters were held until the presentations were completed. They included but were not limited to: do we know how much the out of pocket expenses are for the under and uninsured? The commissioners were informed the answer requires a lot more data and analytics and there is no specific information at this time. Director Korbolic explained the difference between bronze, silver and catastrophic plans being lower actuarial, lower premium, higher deductible and cat plans are only available to those under 30 years old. A question was asked about specific data on the delay of access to care and was told Medicaid monitors data and there is a lot of information regarding this on their website. Administrator Bierman indicated she can send a link to access the reports. She further specified that she is working on getting updated numbers on Medicaid enrollment projections as the public emergency requires continuous enrollment with everyone still being covered. The emergency order will most likely be in place through Q1 of 2021. They expect to see an uptick of increase in 2021. Someone asked if there was a quality comparison between Medicaid and the Exchange and was told they have a side by side comparison on price, coverage, etc. Director Korbolic stated she could share the page with the PPC.

### **Agenda Item IX - Update on Collaboration and Coordination between the Commission and other State Entities**

Director Chalhagian

- a. The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services regarding the Peterson-Millbank Program for Sustainable Health Care Costs. Director Chalhagian indicated this item is a follow-up to the information she shared with commission about this program. She briefly highlighted the program as a unique opportunity for Nevada to collaborate and obtain dedicated support to measure total health care costs and growth rates. She asked the commissioners if the PPC would like to offer support to Director Whitley and DHHS with this opportunity.

**MOTION** was made to support Director Whitley with this effort by Commissioner Bond. Commissioner Baron seconded. Carried without dissent.

- b. The Office of the Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection regarding Review of Health Care Related Mergers and Acquisitions. Director Chalhagian informed the commission that three commissioners attended a virtual meeting with the OAG. The Bureau of Consumer Protection section has very limited resources but indicated they will continue to collaborate with the commission however they can. The possibility of a presentation or another meeting was suggested.



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### Agenda Item - X Status Update on Commission's Bill Draft Requests

Director Chalhagian informed the Commissioners that the bill language was still going through the legislative drafting process. There were no comments, questions, or discussion.

### Agenda Item - XI Standing Agenda Items

- a. Recommendations for Commission Activities and/or Report to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau  
Reminded Commissioners the next report is due January 1, 2021. Some suggestions from commissioners included taking a closer look at the Silver State Solutions: Expanding Medicaid Access in Nevada report mentioned by Administrator Bierman, also the SCR10 report, and the drug price study from Senator Yvanna Cancela was mentioned to be of interest as well. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
- b. Presentations for Future Meetings  
Some commissioners mentioned they would like to see a presentation on workforce issues, AG presentation to help with transparency questions and HIE presentation **NO ACTION TAKEN**
- c. Discussion of Potential Agenda Items included but were not limited to understanding how uninsured population affects costs when they walk through the door, what are the drivers of costs of health care during the pandemic and how does it effect the rest of us, recommendation of an in-depth report for each of the top four priority topics, cost factor value of consortium cost drivers (Commissioner Kahn will send Director Chalhagian all information on "consortium". A brief discussion was held on other BDR's related to topics within the scope of the commission's review. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
- d. Discussion of Future Meeting Dates  
November 30, 2020 at 9:00 am has been scheduled

### Agenda Item - XII Public Comment

No public comment

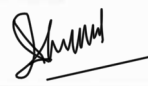
### Agenda Item - XIII Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Leslie Mayville  
Office of the Patient Protection Commission

APPROVED BY:

  
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Dr. Ikram Khan, Chair  
Date: 11/30/2020



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### Meeting Materials

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER	DESCRIPTION
II.	Charles Duarte, Dementia Care Director for the Alzheimer's Association in Nevada	Written Public Comments
VII.	Chairman Ikram Khan	Summary of PPC Priorities Indication Worksheet
VIII.	Meredith Levine, Director of Economic Policy, Guinn center	Guinn Center, Nevada's Uninsured Population
VIII.	Suzanne Bierman, J.D., M.P.H., Administrator, DHCFP	State of Nevada, DHHS, Medicaid Enrollment
VIII.	Heather Korbolic, Executive Director, Silver State Health Exchange	Patient Protection Commission Presentation