Arizona State Office of Rural Health Webinar Series

Today’s presentation:

2019 Arizona Legislative Session Retrospective and 2020 Outlook

September 5, 2019
Arizona State Office of Rural Health
Monthly Webinar Series

Provides technical assistance to rural stakeholders to disseminate research findings, policy updates, best-practices and other rural health issues to statewide rural partners and stakeholders.

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Today’s presentation:

2019 Arizona Legislative Wrap up and 2020 Outlook

Presenters:

Will Humble, MPH
Executive Director
Arizona Public Health Association

Heather Carter, EdD
Assistant Professor of Practice
Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health
University of Arizona
Associate Director, Arizona Center for Rural Health

Moderator:

Alison Hughes
Arizona Rural Health Association
Today’s presentation:

2019 Arizona Legislative Wrap up and 2020 Outlook

Will Humble, MPH
Executive Director, Arizona Public Health Association

Will Humble, MPH has worked in the field of public health in Arizona for more than 30 years. He believes that the key to keeping people healthy and reducing health disparities is to focus on public health prevention and to address the social determinants of health.

Heather Carter, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor of Practice, Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona
Associate Director, Arizona Center for Rural Health

Dr. Carter serves in the Arizona Legislature. From 2010-2018, she served in the House of Representatives, where she chaired the House Health Committee for six years. Currently, she is the State Senator from LD 15 (North Phoenix, Scottsdale and Cave Creek) and is chair of Higher Education and Workforce Development committee, vice-chair of the Health and Human Services Committee and sits on the Senate Appropriations Committee.
Arizona’s 2019 Legislative Session Wrap:

Public Health Wins, Losses & Missed Opportunities (but Mostly Wins)

September 5th, 2019

Will Humble, MPH
Executive Director,
Arizona Public Health Association
www.azpha.org
Learning Objectives

• Be able to describe 3 bills that passed and were signed during the 2019 Legislative Session that will be good for public health in Arizona

• Be able to describe 3 bills that were heard but didn’t pass that would have been good for public health in Arizona

• Be able to identify 3 bills that were heard and failed that would have been bad for public health
Public Health Wins

Access to Care

- Kids Care Reauthorization
- Additional $750,000 for the State Loan Repayment Program (in addition to the current $1M/year)
- $1.6M for rural Graduate Medical Education ($5.5M w fed match) and $1.3M for urban GME ($4.4M w fed match)
- $750,000 for North Country Graduate Medical Education
- $700K for Colorado City primary care clinic
- $1.5M for Benson and Northern Cochise critical access hospitals
- **SB 1089** Telemedicine
Public Health Wins

Injury Prevention

• HB 2318 Hands Free Cell Requirement
• SB 1468 Suicide Prevention Training
• HB 2488 Veteran Suicide Annual Report
• $1.6M for Veteran's Suicide Prevention (includes $450K for trauma training)
Public Health Wins

Assurance & Licensure
- **SB 1247** Residential Care Institutions
- **SB 1211** Intermediate Care Facilities
- **HB 1494** Medical Marijuana Testing

Maternal & Child Health
- **SB 1040** Maternal Mortality Report
- **SB 1456** Vision Screening
- $1M for Rural Prenatal Equipment (Budget)
Public Health Win: Access to Care

Kids Care (CHIP) Reauthorization

- Final State Budget fully funded KidsCare and reduced the risk of a future enrollment freeze
- Pays next year’s increased state match requirements
- Eliminates the former trigger language that would have frozen KidsCare when the federal match requirement changes again in FY 2021
- Secures quality health insurance coverage for more than 30,000 Arizona kids
Public Health Wins: Access to Care

Budget Items

• $750,000 for the State Loan Repayment Program (in addition to the current $1M/year)
• $12.5M more for Graduate Medical Education ($7M rural and $4.5M urban)
• $750,000 for North Country Graduate Medical Education
• $700K for Colorado City primary care clinic
• $1.5M for Benson and Northern Cochise hospitals
• $10M to the Housing Trust Fund for programs related to homelessness
• $15M for an ADE school safety grant program for School Resource Officers, or behavioral health counselors and social workers
Public Health Win: Access to Care

**SB 1089 Telemedicine**

- Any healthcare service covered in-person by a commercial insurer will also be covered when provided through telemedicine.
- Formerly, AZ law limited telemedicine coverage to a handful of medical services.
Public Health Win: Injury Prevention

SB 1165 (2318) Texting and Driving Prohibition

• Prohibits using a hand-held cell phone while driving
• Common-sense exemptions for example if the person is using it hands free etc.
• Penalties are a civil penalty (no driving points) with the first offense being between $75- $150 and the 2nd offense between $150 and $250
• Money penalties begin January 1, 2021
• Is Primary Enforcement: law enforcement can act in the absence of another moving violation
Public Health Win: Injury Prevention

**HB 2488 Veteran Suicide Annual Report**

- Requires ADHS (starting this year) to complete an annual report on veteran suicides in Arizona
- The report will create the surveillance and data linkages to inform suicide prevention strategies based upon risk factors that correlate to suicide
- The report will analyze patterns of drugs, or combinations of drugs, that were used by Arizona's resident veterans when drug poisoning was the mechanism of suicide
Public Health Win: Injury Prevention

**SB 1468 Suicide Prevention Training**
- Requires public schools and Arizona teacher training programs to include suicide prevention training in their continuing education curricula
- Requires AHCCCS to make suicide training available (some evidence-based tools curricula already exist)
- Starts in the 2020 school year
- Applies to grades 6 to 12
- Specifies evidenced-based training materials
Public Health Win: Licensure

SB 1247 Residential Care Institutions

- Requires more robust staffing background checks for facilities that provide services for children
- Removes the “deemed status” designation for child residential behavioral health facilities
- Under the old law, facilities in this category (e.g. Southwest Key) can be accredited by a 3rd party (e.g. Council on Accreditation) and avoid annual surprise inspections by the ADHS
- New law provides more oversight to ensure background checks and that facilities are compliant with state regulations
Public Health Win: Licensure

**SB 1211 Intermediate Care Facilities**

- Closes a licensing loophole by requiring more robust staffing background checks for facilities that provide services to people with disabilities at intermediate care facilities.
- These facilities will now require a license to operate from the Arizona Department of Health Services beginning on January 1, 2020.
- Under current law these facilities (Hacienda de los Angeles and similar facilities run by the ADES were exempt from state licensing requirements).
Public Health Win: Vital Records

**SB 1245 Vital Records- Death Certificates**

- This bill will make it clear that both state and county Registrars can provide certified copies of death certificates to licensed funeral home directors upon request.

- There’s been some confusion about this authority and this bill will clear that up.
Public Health Win: Licensure

HB 1494 Medical Marijuana Testing

- Requires medical marijuana dispensaries to test their product for potency and contaminants
- Will also require the ADHS to develop testing standards and laboratory certification criteria
- Improves ADHS’ dispensary enforcement authority
- MM data can now be used for research purposes
- MM Cards valid for 2 years (effectively cuts card fees in half)
Public Health Win: Maternal & Child Health

SB 1040 Maternal Mortality Report
- Establishes an ADHS Advisory Committee on Maternal Fatalities and Morbidity
- Committee objectives are to develop a report with recommendations to improve maternal health birth outcomes by December 31, 2019
- State Budget included $1M for Rural Prenatal Equipment
Public Health Win: Maternal & Child Health

SB 1456 Vision Screening

- Requires schools to provide vision screening services to students in grades prescribed by future ADHS rules
- Applies to kids being considered for special education services, and students who are not reading at grade level by the third grade
- Appropriates $100,000 from the state General Fund to the ADHS for tracking and follow up
Missed Opportunity: Oral Health

**SB 1088 Dental Care During Pregnancy**

- Would have expanded AHCCCS covered services to include preventative dental coverage during pregnancy.
- Good oral health improves birth outcomes including reducing pre-term birth while also preventing the transmission of caries from mom to infant after birth.
- Periodontal disease costs the state $29M in the first year from low birth weight births because of periodontal disease compared with only $2.6M for a similar number of non pre-term birth.
**Missed Opportunity: Injury Prevention**

**HB 2718 Syringe Services Programs**
- This bill would have decriminalized syringe access programs, currently a class 6 felony.
- To qualify, programs would have needed to list their services including disposal of used needles, injection supplies, and access to kits that contain an opioid antagonist.
- We’ll try again next year.
Missed Opportunity: Access to Care

**SB 1354** Graduate Medical Education & Loan Repayment

- The final budget did make some investments that were included in this bill, but not all.
- This bill would have done a great deal both in the short-term by substantially boosting the primary care loan repayment program and really enhancing graduate medical education residencies over the coming years.
- Residency location is critical as it influences where practitioners ultimately practice.
Missed Opportunity: Native American Health

**SB 1174** Tribal Area Health Education Center
- Bill would have added an Area Health Education Center specifically for Native Americans

**SB 1355** Native American Dental Care
- This bill would have required AHCCCS to seek federal authorization to reimburse the Indian Health Services and tribal facilities to cover the cost of adult dental services
Missed Opportunity: Physical Activity

**SB1399 School Health Pilot Program**

- Would have charged the ADE with conducting a 3-year physical and health education professional development pilot program
- Would have improved the ability of physical and health educators in this state to provide high quality physical and health education
- Goal was to improve student health and reducing Arizona health care cost containment 10 system and other health-related costs
Missed Opportunity: Vaping Control

**HB 2357** Electronic Cigarettes

- Would have classified vaping products in the same category as tobacco
- Vape pens would be subject to the same laws and rules that govern sales and use (e.g. vaping would be covered under the Smoke Free Arizona Act)
- Would have allowed cities and towns to impose their own stricter regulations.
- Would have kept the sale age at 18 (rather than 21 which would be ideal) but it would still allow communities to adopt and keep their own ordinances
Other Missed Opportunities: Bills that Sadly Weren’t Heard

- SB 1363 Tobacco Product Sales (Tobacco 21) (Carter)
- HB 2162 Vaccine Personal Exemptions (Hernandez)
- HB 2352 School Nurse and Immunization Postings (Butler)
- HB 2172 Rear Facing Car Seats (Bolding)
- HB 2246 Motorcycle Helmets (Friese)
- SB 1219 Domestic Violence Offenses & Firearm Transfer
- HB 2247 Bump Stocks (Friese)
- HB 2248 Firearm Sales (Friese)
- HB 2161 Order of Protection (Hernandez)
- SB 1119 Tanning Studios (Mendez)
- HB 2347 Medicaid Buy-in (Butler)
- HB 2351 Medical Services Study Committee (Butler)
Close Calls: Bills that Would Have Hurt Vaccination Rates

**HB 2470 Vaccination Religious Exemptions**
- Would have added an additional exemption to the school vaccine requirements into state law

**HB 2472 Vaccinations- Antibody Titer**
- Would have mandated that doctors inform parents and guardians that antibody titer tests are an option in lieu of receiving a vaccination and that there are exemptions available for the state requirements for attending school

**HB 2471 Informed Consent**
- Would have added a requirement that physicians provide parents a full vaccine package insert for each vaccine administered (physicians already provide a Vaccine Information Summary to parents)
Close Calls: Bill that Would Have Hurt Future Tobacco Control Efforts

**SB 1147 Tobacco and E-Cigarettes**
- Would have set the minimum age statewide for tobacco possession at 21 but would have overridden local ordinances
- E-cigs would be in a separate legal category from tobacco meaning - specifically exempting them from the Smoke Free Arizona Act
- Bottom line: the restrictions in the bill weren’t worth it. Better to wait for a clear T-21 bill & tobacco/e-cig definition
Bad Bill that Passed: Access to Care

**SB 1109** Short Term Limited Health Plans

- This new law authorizes the sale of short-term limited health plans in Arizona for terms up to 3 years. The previous limit was 1 year.
- They don’t cover pre-existing conditions and have limited consumer protection because they aren’t required to cover the essential health services under the ACA and can drop enrollees.
- Caveat Emptor!
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• AzPHA continually monitors legislation and take positions consistent with previous AzPHA Member Resolutions
• AzPHA produces weekly Public Health Policy Updates that summarize bills and inform members of their implications
• Action Alerts will again be produced as needed to engage our members in advocacy during session
• Our Lobbyist meets with members & testifies in committee about the bills that influence public health
• AzPHA Individual Memberships only $75; Students $25
• www.azpha.org
Discussion – Please enter your questions in the Zoom Chat Box

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• You can use the system to support or oppose legislation and provide your reasons why.

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Thank you! Be sure to save the date for Upcoming AzCRH Webinars

Superbugs are Taking Over... Here’s How Telehealth Can Stop Them
Kevin T. Stephan, MD, FACP
Thursday, September 19th, 2019, 12pm

Arizona Common Ground
Krista R. Cardenas, MPH
Thursday, October 17th, 2019, 12pm
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