



NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

Legislative Health Staff Network

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Faculty Biographies

Mark D. Andrews

Mark Andrews is a staff vice-chair of NCSL's Health Committee. He has worked for over 20 years as a nonpartisan policy analyst for the Utah Legislature. For 12 of those years he has worked on health and human services issues. He has also played a key staff role in the 1991 and 2001 rounds of redistricting.

Raúl Burciaga

Raúl Burciaga worked for 15 years in the administration of federal health care programs, primarily Medicare and the Indian Health Service, and also served as a Medicare consultant for several companies before attending law school.

Raúl joined the New Mexico Legislative Council Service in 2000 after graduating from the University of New Mexico School of Law. He has served as staff attorney for the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee, Legislative Health Subcommittee, Medicaid Reform Committee and various other legislative interim committees. He has served as the legislative staff liaison to the Governor's Health Care Coverage and Access Task Force, the Insure New Mexico Council, the joint legislative-executive Health Coverage for New Mexicans Committee and the state's Medicaid Advisory Committee. He is currently the Staff Chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures' Standing Committee on Health.

Megan Foreman

Megan Foreman is a Policy Associate in the Denver Health Program. Megan has been with NCSL for four years and is the group's expert on adolescent health issues. She coordinates deliverables for two youth-focused grants and works to build collaborative relationships with a number of other projects and issue areas around youth wellbeing. Megan graduated from the University of Denver with a BA in public policy and journalism studies.

Christie L. Hager

Christie Hager is the former Chief Health Counsel to the Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and has returned to the faculty of the Harvard School of Public Health, in the Department of Health Policy and Management. Previously, she served as Deputy Director of the Division of Public Health Practice at the Harvard School of Public Health. She was Director of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum from 1999-2003 at the Schneider Institute for Health Policy at Brandeis University's Heller Graduate School, where she was appointed as the first Senior Fellow. Chris has served as Chair of the American Public Health Association's Health Law Forum, and on the APHA Governing Council. She also served as President of the Massachusetts Public Health Association. Chris is a former Co-Chair of the Health Law Section of the Boston Bar Association, and is now Chair of its Ad Hoc Committee on Health Reform. She is also former Staff Vice-Chair of the Health Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures. She has held research positions on the staff of the Massachusetts House of Representatives Joint Committee on Health Care and on the editorial staff of the New England Journal of Medicine.

Chris is appointed to the faculty at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, and at Suffolk University Law School, where she teaches courses on health law and state health policy. Her work has appeared in such publications as the New England Journal of Medicine and the American Journal of Law and Medicine.

Chris holds an A.B. from Smith College, a M.P.H. from the Boston University School of Public Health, and a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law. She is admitted to the practice of law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Nolan Langweil

Nolan Langweil is the health care fiscal analyst for the Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office, which provides non-partisan information, research, and fiscal analysis to the Vermont General Assembly.

Frances Maestas

Frances Ramirez-Maestas currently serves as the Director of the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC), the permanent, bipartisan, bicameral interim education committee of the New Mexico Legislature. As director, Ms. Maestas plans, develops, and supervises the committee's continuing study of the state's K-12 public education, the laws governing such education, and the policies and the costs of the New Mexico educational system, including teacher education in postsecondary institutions, and coordinates committee's development of legislative recommendations for consideration of the full legislature. Prior to becoming LESC director, Mr. Maestas served as the committee's Deputy Director and Principal Fiscal Analyst for 11 years. Ms. Maestas background includes a BBA from New Mexico State University and an MBA from the College of Santa Fe. At the present time, Ms. Maestas serves on the Steering Committee of the Legislative Education Staff Network (LESN), a partnership between the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and the Education Commission of the States (ECS), an initiative that she boasts about at every opportunity. She served as Staff Chair of the NCSL Education Standing Committee and Co-chair of the LESN in 2007-2008.

Doug Sacarto

Doug Sacarto is Director of Information Technology & Online Services. In this capacity, he manages the computer information systems of the Conference and develops strategic technology initiatives for supporting NCSL's operations and directly serving state legislators, legislative staff and the public. Key systems under his direction include desktop and network infrastructures, business management systems, messaging, web sites and other online services, including web conferencing systems, discussion forums and other online collaboration tools.

Cindi Stetson

Cindi Stetson has almost 20 years of performance audit experience and currently serves as Deputy State Auditor for performance audits at the Colorado Office of the State Auditor. Cindi oversees about 25 performance audit staff as well as the administrative and human resource functions for the Office. The Office performs about 20 performance audits annually covering a variety of topics, including human services and health care-related fields.

Prior to accepting her current appointment, Cindi served as the performance auditor for Los Alamos County, New Mexico; the Vice President for Community Impact, United Way of Santa Fe County; and Managing Legislative Auditor, Colorado Office of the State Auditor. She holds Certified Internal Auditor and Certified Government Accounting Professional certificates from the Institute of Internal Auditors. She has bachelors and masters degrees in music (piano performance) and attended law school. She is married with two children – one who recently graduated from college and was commissioned in the Army and one who is attending college in Valparaiso, Chile in the fall. When she is not auditing, she practices her avocation (music) and enjoys hiking, biking, and skiing in Colorado's beautiful outdoors.