

State Legislative Approaches *to Health Impact Assessments*



NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas



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**National Conference of State Legislatures
(NCSL)**

**National Health Impact Assessment Meeting
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State Legislative Approaches to Using Health Impact Assessments

- **HIAs to Improve Health Care Quality**
- **Health Impacts of an Environmental Policy or Project**
- **Health Impacts on Disadvantaged Populations**
- **HIAs to Assess the Efficacy of Policies**
- **Health Impact on a Transportation Policy or Project**
- **Comprehensive HIAs**





HIAs to Improve Health Care Quality

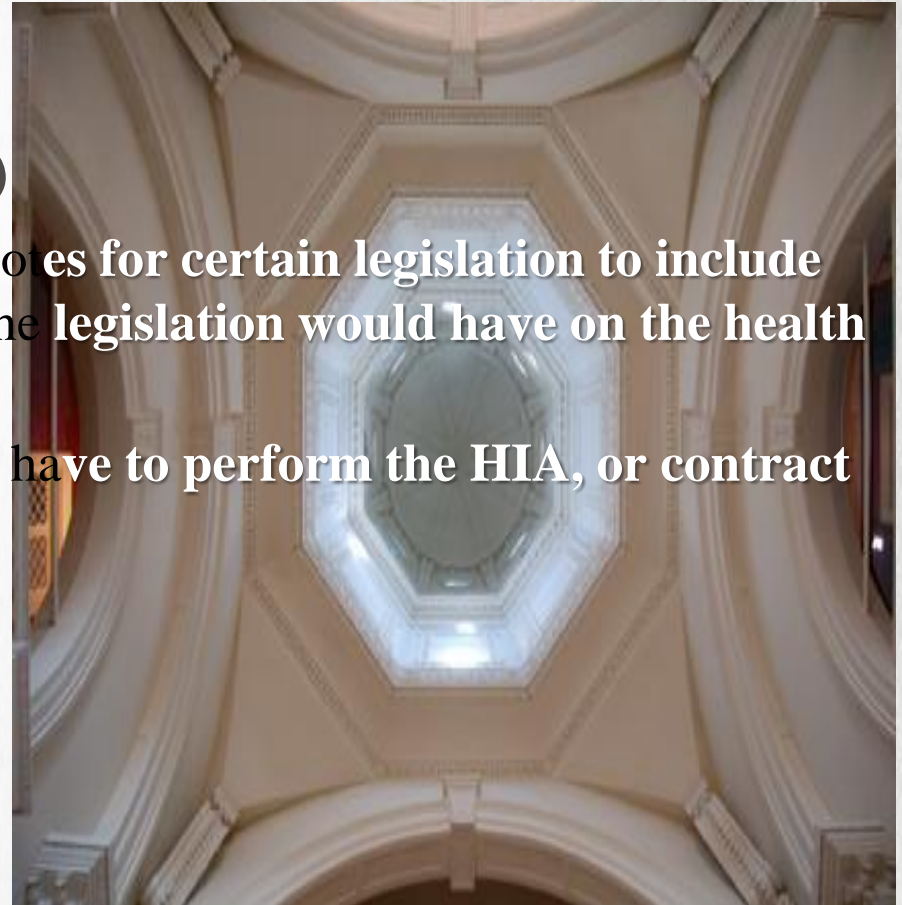
- o *California A.B. 2715 (2007)*
 - Is San Francisco's Paid Sick Leave policy applicable to the state?
- o *California Senate Bill 306 (Sess. 2007)*
- o *New Jersey S.B. 375 (2010-2011 Sess.) and A.B. 949 (2010-2011 Sess.)*
 - Would transferring a non-profit into a for-profit hospital adversely impact a community ?





Health Impacts on Disadvantaged Populations

- *Maryland H.B. 341 (2010 Sess.)*
 - This bill would require the fiscal notes for certain legislation to include information on the fiscal impact the legislation would have on the health of minority populations.
 - The legislative fiscal office would have to perform the HIA, or contract for such services





Health Impacts of an Environmental Policy or Project

- o *Alaska's State Environmental Policy Act*
 - Allows a community to request the state Dept of Health to perform an HIA before a natural resource project is permitted
- o *New York S. 2697 (2012) and New York S. 6772 (2012)*
 - Requires an HIA prior to issuing a permit for fracking or horizontal gas drilling
- o *Illinois Adverse Impacts of Chicago O'Hare International Airport H.B. 1729 (2011 Sess.) Illinois Environmental Protection Act S.B. 2054 (2011 Sess.)*
 - Assess whether the health affects of O'Hare Airport has any impact on the surrounding communities
 - Part of the analysis re: expansion of O'Hare



HIAs to Assess the Efficacy of Policies

- o *California Healthy Families, Healthy Workplaces Act of 2008 A.B. 2716 (2007 Sess.)*
 - Sought to allow workers to earn paid sick days so they can have the time to stay with sick children and relatives without spreading the disease to their co-workers.
 - Provided workers in the food service industry time off to keep them away from food preparation and avoid spreading their illness
- o *West Virginia S.B. 12 (2011) and S.B. 25 (2012)*
 - Perform and HIA on all new or revised environmental rules, arguing that such an assessment would ensure that state standards for air emissions and water releases protected the public's health and the health of the environment
 - Sponsor Sen. Dan Foster, a physician by trade



Health Impact on a Transportation Policy or Project

- o *Massachusetts Transportation Modernization Act H.B. 107, H.B. 4047 (2009); Massachusetts Transportation Modernization Act S.B. 13, S.B. 388; S.B. 2024; S.B. 2087 (2009)*

Enacted as S.B. 2087; Chap. No. 25 (2009)





Comprehensive HIAs

- *The California Healthy Places Act (A.B. 1472 (Sess 2008))*
 - directed the state Department of Public Health (DPH) to provide guidance, technical assistance and grants to local public health agencies and community organizations to ensure that health concerns were addressed in transportation and land-use planning decisions.
- *Maryland Healthy Places Act; H.B. 1034 (Sess. 2007)*
 - A pilot program within the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to facilitate state and local health officials' involvement in community planning and land-use decisions and to identify potential health concerns.





Comprehensive HIAs

o *Vermont H. 202 (2011) Act No. 48*

- Creates a single-payer and unified health system, establishes a board to ensure cost-containment in health care, to create system-wide budgets, and pursue payment reform, establishes a health benefit exchange, creates a public private single-payer health care system to provide coverage
- Requires the state make recommendations to legislature on a plan to **institute** a public health impact assessment process.





Contact Details and Key Resources

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Key Resources

www.ncsl.org go 17322

- Or -

Google 'State Environmental Health Legislation'