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Academy Releases “Nevada Health Scorecard”

(Carson City, NV) – The Nevada Academy of Health today officially released the “Nevada Health Scorecard,” a summary of independent studies reviewing where Nevada stands compared with other states on a broad range of health indicators.

The “Nevada Health Scorecard,” which has been delivered to the Legislature and the Governor, is available through the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Web site at http://dhhs.nv.gov/AcademyHealth/Health_Scorecard_v10.pdf.

“The Academy decided to compile the Nevada Health Scorecard to help policy makers frame the debate over health care issues in our state,” said Academy Chair Cynthia Kiser Murphey. “While Nevada often ranks poorly compared with other states, our purpose is not to highlight our deficiencies, but rather to illustrate where we stand on many of the issues that define Nevada’s overall health and well being and therefore inspire more informed debate on this important subject.”

The Scorecard compiles information from four prominent health ranking sources: Congressional Quarterly Press, the Commonwealth Fund, the Kaiser Family Foundation, and the United Health Foundation. These four sources were chosen because of their reputation and because they rank each state based on its underlying score for each health indicator.

The Scorecard is divided into seven sections based on subject matter: health care finance & expenditure, health care workforce, health care access and capacity, health care quality, maternal & child health, minority health disparities, and health & well being.

Hyperlinks are provided for each individual ranking where available to offer readers immediate access to the source material if they are looking for additional detail about any particular ranking.

“These sources often provide much greater detail than we could compile in the Scorecard, including racial disparities and differences between rural areas and urban centers,” Murphey said. “The Academy believes the Scorecard will be a valuable tool as policy makers look for ways to improve health care in the State of Nevada.”

The Academy expects the Scorecard to be updated regularly as new information becomes available, and an up-to-date version will be maintained online.

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