

Gonzales appointed to national health panel

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AUSTIN - State Rep. Veronica Gonzales, D-McAllen, has been appointed by House Speaker Tom Craddick to serve a two-year term on the Health Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Gonzales said the Health Committee is composed of state legislators who will work together to create policy guidelines on a variety of issues ranging from cancer prevention and control, children's health insurance, disease prevention, health care insurance and substance abuse.

"I am eager to use my experience on the Texas Public Health committee to work for state-federal health policy development," Gonzales said. "This appointment is a vital opportunity to further advocate for South Texas' health needs."

The committee helps to develop policy on state-federal issues and guide the lobbying efforts of the NCSL.

As a member of the NCSL Health Committee, Gonzales will be responsible for participating in legislative forums which focus on policy innovation among different legislatures and guiding the NCSL's lobbying efforts at the federal government.

"Access to quality and affordable health care is not just a Texas issue," Gonzales said. "We need to work together with other states and with our federal government to discuss innovative ways to insure every adult and child and to work on prevention rather than responding to health needs when they have reached the crisis level."



Rep. Veronica Gonzales