On January 1, 2020, Russell Toal became the New Mexico Superintendent of Insurance, having been chosen unanimously by the state Nominating Committee. The Office of the Superintendent of Insurance (OSI) serves all aspects of the insurance world in New Mexico and includes some notable special operations such as the Auto Theft Prevention program and the Patient Compensation Fund for malpractice actions. Prior to becoming Superintendent he served as a Deputy Secretary of the Human Services Department, leading several significant initiatives, including the innovative Enterprise HHS 2020 project that is designed to service multiple state agencies. In 2014, Toal began his work in New Mexico as the Deputy Director of the Human Services Department’s Division of Medical Assistance.

Before relocating to New Mexico in 2014, Toal served in several public service roles in Georgia, including Director of the State Cancer program, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Community Health, which was responsible for the state Medicaid, PeachCare, State Health Planning, and Indigent Care Trust Fund programs, as well as the State Health Benefit Plan offering health benefits to all state and school personnel. Prior to creation of the Department of Community Health, for 11 years, Toal was both a Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Medical Assistance. In those roles, he was responsible for planning, management, and administration of the Georgia Medicaid program, which had a budget of $3.2 billion and paid health benefits on behalf of more than 950,000 recipients to nearly 40,000 providers. His last role with Georgia was serving as the Director of the Georgia Southern University College of Public Health’s Center for Rural Health and Research.

Toal received his Master of Public Health degree in Health Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He is a member of the New Mexico Public Health Association and an alumnus of the National Association of Medicaid Directors. He resides in Santa Fe, NM.

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2/27/2022 3