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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/24/09

SPONSOR Lundstrom LAST UPDATED _____ HB 114

SHORT TITLE Create an Osteoporosis Disease Plan SB _____

ANALYST Hanika-Ortiz

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
\$25.0			General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Human Services Department (HSD)

Health Policy Commission (HPC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 114 appropriates \$25 thousand to the DOH for expenditure in FY09 and FY10 to create a task force to establish a statewide osteoporosis disease plan. HB 114 has an emergency clause that will require this new act take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$25 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY10 shall revert to the General Fund.

This appropriation was not included in the Legislative Finance Committee's budget recommendation for the Department in FY09.

According to the December 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$293 million, or 2.6 percent, less than the FY09 appropriation. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

The bill is unclear as to how the appropriation will be spent. If left at the discretion of the Department, DOH estimates the appropriation could be used for funding part of an additional staff person to carry out the duties assigned by the task force.

Task force members may be entitled to per diem and mileage as provided in the Per Diem and Mileage Act. Any additional fiscal impact to state agencies will depend upon what recommendations made by the task force are ultimately implemented.

The National Institutes of Health estimates direct expenditures for osteoporosis and related fractures nationwide at \$14 billion each year.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Osteoporosis Foundation of New Mexico website; *Osteoporosis or bone loss that can lead to fractures affects 44 million Americans. It is most common in postmenopausal women, but may also occur in men and sometimes in children. There are 1.5 million osteoporosis fractures in the US every year. These fractures may cause loss of independence, chronic pain, disability, and even death. Osteoporosis is not an inevitable part of aging. It is a preventable and curable disease.*

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The bill requires the task force to present its plan before the appropriate interim committees by November 2, 2009. The bill is unclear as to which public or private entities will be asked to participate as task force members.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

DOH reports that a part-time health educator will need to be hired to oversee the development, coordination and implementation of any recommendations made by the task force.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Most people with osteoporosis are undiagnosed and untreated. Osteoporosis only causes symptoms when it is far advanced. Symptoms include loss of height, deformed spine, unexplained back pain, and fractures. It is best to detect problems at an early stage, when treatment is most effective. The best test for detecting osteoporosis is bone densitometry, done with a technique called "Dual-energy X-ray Absorptiometry" or DXA. This is an accurate way of measuring bone density, and can be used for both early detection and for monitoring the effectiveness of treatment for this disease.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

A task force and appropriation to support its efforts to establish a statewide osteoporosis disease plan will not be established through this legislation.