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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**SPONSOR** Garcia, T **ORIGINAL DATE** 02/25/09  
**LAST UPDATED** \_\_\_\_\_ **HB** 880  
**SHORT TITLE** Northern County Suicide Prevention Services **SB** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ANALYST** Chabot

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$35.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Department of Health (DOH)

Human Services Department (HSD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 880, Northern County Suicide Prevention Services, appropriates \$35 thousand from the general fund to DOH for the purpose of providing suicide prevention services to youths and adults residing in Taos, Colfax and Union Counties.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$35 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC submitted a balanced general fund appropriation recommendation for fiscal year 2010. Any additional general fund expenditures appropriated by the Legislature must be off-set by an equal amount from the appropriation recommendation.

According to the February 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$575 million less than the FY09 appropriations before the 2009 solvency reductions. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Behavioral health responsibilities were transferred to the Human Services Department, Behavioral Health Collaborative in the 2007 session.

HSD reports according to the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative Report (June, 2008), 14 percent of high school aged *youth* responding reported attempting *suicide* one or more times in 2003, 5 percent greater than the national response of 9 percent. The number of completed suicides among youth ages 10 to 19 in 2003 was 77. Also relevant to baseline data is the NM 2005 data, showing that, though the rate decreased slightly, fully 12.5 percent of students responding reported at least one suicide attempt in the past year. This places New Mexico squarely as the third highest among participating states in the nation, with a rate of youth suicide attempts 1.5 times greater than the national rate of 8.4 percent.

The Behavioral Health Local Collaborative for this area did not identify this as its top two legislative priorities, but did identify the need for increased services to community based behavioral health providers, transportation and outreach to rural communities.

CYFD reports New Mexico consistently ranks among the top 5 states in the United States for its suicide rate, which is 1.5 to 2 times the national average. The suicide rates among all ethnicities and age groups are 4 times higher among males (31.6 per 100,000) than females (6.9 per 100,000). Suicide is the 9th leading cause of death for New Mexicans. (NM Suicide Prevention Coalition).

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

HSD is responsible for behavioral health issues; on line 18 strike “department of health” and insert “human services department”.

GAC/mc