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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/07/13

SPONSOR Hamilton LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HM 27

SHORT TITLE Study Naprapathy for Veteran PTSD SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Crespin-Trujillo

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	\$0.0	\$0.0				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 233

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Veterans' Services Department (VSD)  
Department of Health (DOH)  
Medical Board (MD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 27 (HM 27) requests the Veterans' Services Department (VSD) to conduct a study, in cooperation with the Department of Health (DOH) and local naprapathic practitioners, of the benefits of naprapathic medicine in treating veterans who suffer from posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). HM 27 notes many veterans suffer pain from service-connected injuries and from the effects of PTSD and many seek treatment through naprapathic medicine. HM 27 requests the study be presented to the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee on or before December 1, 2013.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact. Some costs may be incurred by VSD and DOH to consult with individuals who have technical knowledge of naprapathic medicine and its use to treat PTSD.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

According to Naprapathic Medicine of New Mexico, naprapathy is a system of manually applied movements, both passive and active, designed to bring motion with consequent release of tension into abnormally tensed and rigid ligaments, muscles and articulations of the human body.

The VSD estimates there are 30 thousand New Mexico veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts and a 20 percent rate of PTSD among these veterans.

Clinical studies exist using complementary and alternative medicine in the treatment of physical and psychiatric symptoms and disorders. The New Mexico Medical Board suggests a formal study could contribute to the resources available to treat veterans with PTSD. The study requested by HM 27 could be used to learn about the potential benefits of naprapathy to treat veterans suffering from pain due to service-connected injuries and due to the effects of PTSD, but more scientific clinical research will likely need to be conducted to justify possible the efficacy of such treatment.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The DOH states there are two existing naprapathic clinics in New Mexico and these clinics are located in Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Therefore, access to naprapathic treatment may be limited to those individuals located in rural and frontier communities.

## **RELATIONSHIP**

HM 27 relates to House Bill 233 (HB233) which appropriates \$250,000 to the DOH for contracting for services for veterans suffering from PTSD

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

The United States Department of Veteran's Affairs is responsible for medical treatment of veterans with disabilities identified at time of discharge. VSD should request assistance from the Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center in conducting the study.

VCT/svb:bm