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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Armstrong/Fajardo ORIGINAL DATE 2/5/16
 LAST UPDATED _____ HM 66

SHORT TITLE Brain Injury Service Health Coverage SB _____

ANALYST Chilton

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	None		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY16	FY17	FY18	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$5.0	\$5.0		\$10.0	Non-recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 11/SB 149

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Governor's Commission on Disability (GCD)
 Retiree Health Care Authority (RHCA)

Responses Not Received From

General Services Department (GSD)
 Human Services Department (HSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

HM 66, Brain Injury Service Health Coverage, noting a high incidence and severe consequences of brain injuries (including violence, poverty, incarceration and homelessness) and inadequate services in New Mexico to support those living with brain injury, asks that the Governor's Commission on Disability study the feasibility of establishing requirements for health insurance coverage of medical services and job development services for individuals living with brain injury and similar conditions.

GCD is asked to consult with the Office of the Superintendent of Insurance, the Risk Management of the General Services Department, the Human Services Department, the public school insurance authority, Albuquerque public schools, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in developing its recommendations, and to report to the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee with its findings.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

GCD indicates that "The Governor's Commission on Disability's Brain Injury Advisory Council operating budget would be affected under contractual services in that they would contract with a task force coordinator to complete this study and report. The agency operating budget can absorb this cost and effort since the main function of the Brain Injury Advisory Council is to conduct studies and make recommendations regarding Brain Injury services. Contract and staff time costs would equal approximately 10K." RHCA indicates no fiscal impact upon that agency.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The impact of brain injury has long been known, but public interest has increased of late, with evidence that sports injuries and abusive head trauma both cause long-lasting and often severe effects.

RELATES to HB 11/SB 149, both of which address abusive head trauma, also called Shaken Baby Syndrome, and its prevention.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

GCD indicates that creation and maintenance of the task force on brain injury would require about 20% of the time of its Brain Injury Coordinator.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Knowledge about health insurance coverage would not be developed and thus would not be available to be used for the development of legislation and services.

LAC/jo