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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Armstrong, G./ **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/7/20
Stefanics **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** 144
SHORT TITLE Seniors' Farmers Market Nutrition Pgm **SB** _____
ANALYST Klundt

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY20	FY21		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Senate Bill 76

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Aging and Long-term Services Department (ALTSD)
 Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 144 (HB 144) appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Health for an expansion of the senior farmers' market nutrition program.

HB 144 provides funds to expand the senior farmers' market nutrition program to provide vouchers for purchasing New Mexico-grown fruit and vegetables to additional eligible, low-income seniors; provided that not more than \$10 thousand shall be used for associated program administration or promotion.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 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 2021 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DOH reported, in 2016, New Mexico ranked 14th among all states for percentage of the population aged 65 or over, and this statistic is expected to increase. Among this population, food insecurity is at 18 percent. In addition, 11.5 percent are living at or below the United States poverty level according to federal income guidelines. The agency believes this bill will increase access to healthy foods for approximately 3,000 additional participants (customers) in fiscal year 2021.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to Senate Bill 76 (SB76) which appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to the Aging and Long Term Services Department (ALTSD) for the purpose of purchasing NM grown fruits and vegetables for the Senior Center meal programs.

The ALTSD reported the current pilot project for the NM grown fruits and vegetables for Senior Center meals program includes: Sandoval County \$18,255, Socorro County \$8,690, and NWNM Seniors in San Juan \$18,255. Each program has to work-in the produce based on menus that had been submitted months in advance for approval from Global Nutrition (meals have to meet 1/3 RDI Required Daily intake for seniors). The cost on meals average approximately \$4.00, this provides the programs .79 cents for vegetables and fruits to the meal (which they will substitute for a fruit and vegetable from their approved menus). The agency estimates the pilot will serve 57,200 meals/seniors.

KK/sb