

NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used in any other situation.

Only the most recent FIR version, excluding attachments, is available on the Intranet. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC office in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Carraro DATE TYPED: 02/12/01 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE: Italian-American Affairs Act SB 540
 ANALYST: Moran

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
	\$ 150.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE

Estimated Revenue		Subsequent Years Impact	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02			
	\$ (150.0)		Recurring	General Fund
	\$ 150.0		Recurring	New Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

SB 540 appropriates \$ 150.0 from the general fund to the newly established Office of Italian American Affairs. This new office would internally monitor and externally promulgate issues relating to the history and culture of Italian Americans within New Mexico and the United States. The Office would provide support through educational and career development assistance, distribute information important to the Italian American community, develop programs designed to meet the needs of Italian Americans and advocate for the Italian American community as a whole.

The Office would be administratively attached to the Human Services Department, and the director of the office would be appointed by the governor. Funding for the office would come from a newly created "Office On Italian American Affairs Fund" that would be composed of gifts, grants, donations

and other devices. The office would be subject to the same statutory requirements as is any state agency, such as preparing a yearly budget and publishing an annual report.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$ 150.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 02 shall *not* revert to the general fund.

The bill creates a new Office of Italian American Affairs Fund from the appropriated general fund revenue. The Fund can receive other revenue sources as well.

Continuing Appropriations

This bill creates a new fund and provides for continuing appropriations. The LFC objects to including continuing appropriation language in the statutory provisions for newly created funds. Earmarking reduces the ability of the legislature to establish spending priorities.

RJM/ar