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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Altamirano DATE TYPED: 2/28/01 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE: Recruit Dentists for Underserved Areas SB 435
 ANALYST: Esquibel

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
	100.0*			Recurring	General Fund

***These funds would be available in FY02 and FY03.**

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB149, HB467

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health (DOH)
 Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD)
 General Services Department (GSD)

No Response

Commission on Higher Education (CHE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 435 appropriates \$100.0 from the general fund to DOH to develop and implement a New Mexico health service corps dentist and dental hygienist recruitment program to provide dental services in the areas of New Mexico underserved by dentists and dental hygienists.

SB435 also exempts from the Procurement Code contracts with health professionals under the Health Services Corps Act, including physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurse-midwives, emergency medical technicians-paramedics, dentists and dental hygienists.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balances remaining at the end of FY03 shall revert to the general fund.

RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bill 435 relates to:

- HB467 which also adds “dentist or dental hygienist” to the definition of health professional in the NM Health Services Corps Act. SB 435 also inserts definitions for “dentist” and “dental hygienist” into the Health Services Corps Act.
- SB149 which would appropriate \$456.0 from the general fund for establishment of a state-wide dental auxiliary career ladder education program at three locations in New Mexico.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

DOH indicates NM does not have a dental school and so participates in the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) program. However, the WICHE program only requires recipients to return to NM and does not require them to practice in an underserved area of the state. A great advantage of the Health Service Corps Act over the WICHE program is that recipients are required to practice in a public health clinic or public or private nonprofit primary care clinic that is located in a state-designated medically (dentally) underserved area or that serves a high-needs population and that uses a sliding fee scale approved by DOH.

RAE/njw