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F I S C A L I M P A C T R E P O R T



SPONSOR: Knauer DATE TYPED: 01/31/02 HB 70/aHCPAC

SHORT TITLE: Teen Suicide Prevention Pilot Program SB _____

ANALYST: Esquibel

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
	75.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HCPAC Amendment

The House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee amendment to House Bill 70 includes Rio Arriba county along with Santa Fe county for the counties where a contract is proposed for a teen suicide prevention pilot program.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 70 appropriates \$75.0 from the general fund to DOH for the purpose of contracting for a teen suicide prevention pilot program in Santa Fe county to include intensive prevention training for adult volunteers; a peer education program for teens likely to have contact with high-risk youth; development of school-based suicide awareness curriculum for middle and high school students; and expanded counseling for high-risk youth and their parents.

Significant Issues

DOH indicates the bill would provide funding to screen large numbers of teenage students to find those with mental health disorders, then arrange treatment in order to prevent possible suicides.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$75.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY03 shall revert to the general fund.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

DOH suggests adding Rio Arriba county to the counties eligible for funding under the provisions of the bill since Rio Arriba county has a much higher rate of teenage suicide than does Santa Fe county. Santa Fe county's teenage suicide rate is below the state average.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Santa Fe county's youth suicide rate was 11.0 from 1996-2000, compared to the state average of 15.7. However, Rio Arriba county's youth suicide rate was 70.5 for the same period.

RAE/njw:ar