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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



SPONSOR: Varela DATE TYPED: 1/29/02 HB 209

SHORT TITLE: Youth Smoking Cessation & Prevention Program SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST: Esquibel

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
	\$1,810.3			Recurring	TSPF

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in The General Appropriation Act of \$7,225.0.

Duplicates SB237, Relates to SB101

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From  
Department of Health (DOH)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 209 appropriates \$1,810.3 from the tobacco settlement program fund to DOH to contract for seed money for a youth smoking cessation and prevention program in youth organizations state-wide.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1,810.3 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the tobacco settlement program fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY03 shall revert to the tobacco settlement program fund.

HB2 et al currently contains an appropriation of \$7,225.0 from the tobacco settlement program fund for smoking cessation and prevention programs, including \$275.0 for media literacy. DOH received \$5,000.0 from the tobacco settlement program fund in FY02 for the same purposes.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The bill does not define “youth” raising questions if the target population should be early school programs, teenagers, young adults or a combination of these groups.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

DOH reports teen smoking is on the rise in New Mexico, with 36.2% of high school students smoking. The national rate is 34.8%.

Currently, there are 16 school districts in New Mexico with contracts from DOH to conduct smoking prevention, education and cessation activities. DOH is developing a contract with a media literacy organization to provide media literacy services statewide.

A major prevention function within DOH is the responsibility for enforcing federal and state tobacco laws to prevent merchants from selling tobacco products to youth under the age of 18.

**RAE/njw**