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HOUSE BILL 267

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

AN ACT

RELATING TO CORRECTIONS; CREATING THE OPIATE REPLACEMENT
THERAPY FOR INMATES PILOT PROJECT; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. OPIATE REPLACEMENT THERAPY PILOT PROJECT. --

A. The "opiate replacement therapy for inmates" pilot project is created as a two-year study that provides opiate replacement treatment, utilizing buprenorphine/naloxone, to thirty women with a history of heroin or other opiate addiction who are incarcerated at and later released on parole from the New Mexico women's correctional facility in Grants. The project shall include standard therapeutic community and addiction counseling.

B. Opiate replacement therapy shall be administered to thirty women with a history of heroin or other opiate

1 addiction who:

2 (1) are at least one month away from release;

3 (2) will be monitored on parole for at least
4 one year following release;

5 (3) will be either incarcerated or on parole
6 for a minimum of two years;

7 (4) are not pregnant; and

8 (5) after being fully informed of
9 buprenorphine/naloxone and its effects and of the requirements
10 and procedures for participation in the project, agree to
11 submit to opiate replacement therapy for two years.

12 C. Priority shall be given to those women who are
13 closest to being released from incarceration and to those
14 planning to parole to a community within sixty miles of a
15 physician certified to prescribe buprenorphine/naloxone
16 therapy.

17 D. Opiate replacement therapy with
18 buprenorphine/naloxone shall be administered to each
19 participant in the pilot project for two years.

20 E. The corrections department shall collaborate
21 with the department of health to administer the opiate
22 replacement therapy for inmates pilot project and to contract
23 for the services of a buprenorphine/naloxone-certified
24 physician to evaluate and treat the women participants.

25 F. The corrections department shall evaluate and

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1 determine the recidivism rate for the women participants in the
2 pilot project as compared with the recidivism rate for women
3 with opiate dependence who are not treated with
4 buprenorphine/naloxone.

5 G. The corrections department shall evaluate and
6 determine the use of psychotropic medication by women
7 participants as compared to women with opiate dependence who
8 are not treated with buprenorphine/naloxone.

9 H. The corrections department shall evaluate and
10 determine the number of opiate-positive urine drug screens
11 among women participants as compared to women with opiate
12 dependence who are not treated with buprenorphine/naloxone.

13 I. The corrections department shall evaluate and
14 determine the rate and frequency of infection, self-inflicted
15 injury and need for medical care of women involved in the pilot
16 project as compared to women with opiate dependence who are not
17 treated with buprenorphine/naloxone.

18 J. The corrections department and department of
19 health shall each report independently to the appropriate
20 interim legislative committee on the evaluations, treatments
21 and outcomes of the pilot project participants by December 1,
22 2006 and again by December 1, 2007.

23 I. The pilot project shall run from July 1, 2005
24 through June 30, 2007.

25 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. -- Two hundred fifty thousand
. 153262. 3

1 dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
2 corrections department for expenditure in fiscal years 2006 and
3 2007 for the opiate replacement therapy for inmates pilot
4 project. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at
5 the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

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