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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

02/23/05 DATE

SPONSOR Picraux TYPED 02/23/05 HB 729

SHORT TITLE Home Modifications for Disabled Persons SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Weber

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$3,000.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

No Response Received From

Governor's Commission on Disability

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 729 appropriates \$3.0 million from the general fund to the governor's Commission on Disability for the purpose of contracting for home modifications for persons with disabilities. The modifications should emphasize access and egress and basic assistance with routine living functions.

#### Significant Issues

The appropriation apparently supplements the existing GAP program that is designed to make home modifications to allow disabled persons to continue living in their homes. Other than the obvious benefit to the disabled person, the concept is to minimize the need for nursing or home care services. In principal this will save money that would go to support these more expensive services. Presently the GAP program has an appropriation of on \$169 thousand meaning this \$3.0 million would represent an 17.7 percent increase in capacity.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$3.0 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 shall revert to the general.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Such a substantial increase in funds and demand on services may overwhelm a small eight person agency like the Governor's Commission. The current GAP program serves only 50-60 persons annually. Assuming the same cost per client, this appropriation would accommodate an increase to almost 1,000 persons that would require extensive administrative capacity.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

Based on what is likely an extensive expansion of administrative capacity, consideration should be given to allow part of the appropriation be used for personal services and other related costs.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

Should the appropriation be made to a larger agency such as Human Services that already has an administrative infrastructure that could more easily absorb the expansion?

If so, should the governor's Commission then function in an advisory capacity?

**MW/lg**