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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lujan DATE TYPED 02/05/05 HB HJM 23

SHORT TITLE Continue Task Force to End Hunger Efforts SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Weber

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Human Services Department  
 Department of Health  
 Public Education Department  
 Aging and Long Term Care Services Department  
 Children, Youth and Families Department

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 23 continues the work begun by the Task Force to End Hunger in New Mexico. Subsequently, the statewide Hunger Summit in 2003 resulted and HJM 84 in 2004. These efforts defined the challenges, problems, strategies, and solutions to end hunger in New Mexico. The Task Force is required to report its progress, including development and implementation of tangible steps to alleviate and eventually eliminate hunger, to the Legislature by November 1, 2005 similar to the report issued in 2004 entitled, Together We Can: Ending Hunger in New Mexico. The involved departments are asked to commit reasonable resources, including designating staff, to the implementation of the recommendations of the task force and enter into memorandum of understanding to facilitate cooperation among the departments in working with the task force.

Significant Issues

The Department of Health reports.

A Governor's Hunger Summit was held in 2003 for the sole purpose of determining the state of hunger and food insecurity in New Mexico. From this Summit the Task Force to End Hunger emerged and has met regularly over the last year analyzing the challenges and problems identified by the Summit participants. In October 2004 the steering committee of the Task Force to End Hunger produced the report "Together We Can: Ending Hunger in New Mexico" which proposes tangible steps to reach the following goals to end hunger and improve the system for all New Mexicans.

- Develop and support a sustainable statewide food system through community based solutions with statewide coordination
- Increase the number of students participating in school-based nutrition programs.
- Maximize participation in existing food programs.
- Improve the nutrition environment in New Mexico
- Ensure that New Mexicans have the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to choose and consume a healthy diet.
- Increase the capacity of the New Mexico Association of Food Banks Statewide network.

New Mexico ranks third in the country for a high rate of hunger. NM ranks first in the ranking for food insecurity. 24.4% of NM children live in poverty, which is the highest ranking in the country. ( Source: Task Force to End Hunger Steering Committee Report, "Together We Can: Ending Hunger in New Mexico", October 2004)

From the Hunger Summit held in 2003 the following initiatives to end hunger and food insecurity were brought forth in 2004:

- A simplified Food Stamp application, specifically for use by the elderly, has been implemented statewide.
- Changing the way The Emergency Food Assistance Program is administered has enabled the NM Association of food banks to more than double the number of households served annually to 250,000 and increase the frequency of distribution from bi-monthly to nearly daily.
- The DOH obesity program.
- The summer food program and the increased publicity about it and statewide locations.
- The Public Education Department's universal school breakfast proposal:
- Implementation of direct certification for children enrolled in public school:
- NM association of Food Banks was awarded one of only six Food Stamp Participation Grants in the United States, to increase food stamp participation through a variety of innovative strategies.

(Source: Task Force to End Hunger Steering Committee Report, "Together We Can: Ending Hunger in New Mexico", October 2004)

**MW/rs**