Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

| SPONSOR | Jeni | nings | DATE TYPED | 03/02/05 | HB | |
|------------|------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------|-----|------|
| SHORT TITL | Æ | Driver's Licenses for | Medically Improve | ed | SB | 994 |
| | | | | ANAL | YST | Ford |

APPROPRIATION

| Appropriation Contained | | Estimated Add | ditional Impact | Recurring or Non-Rec | Fund Affected |
|-------------------------|------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| FY05 | FY06 | FY05 | FY06 | | |
| | | | NFI | | |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Public Safety (DPS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 994 allows a driver who has previously been found ineligible for a driver's license because of a mental disability or disease to receive a driver's license if a physician certifies that s/he is recovered to full health.

Significant Issues

Current law provides that a license shall not be issued to a person "who has previously been afflicted with or who is suffering from any mental disability or disease that would render him unable to drive a motor vehicle with safety upon the highways and who has not, at the time of application, been restored to health." This seems to provide that a person whose application for a license is denied could reapply when his/her health is restored and be issued a license. In addition, Section 66-5-6 NMSA 1978 establishes the health standards advisory board, and a process of review for persons who have been denied a license because of health reasons. The board is able to receive information from health care practitioners about the condition of the applicant.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

MVD will have to establish a process to review information from physicians regarding potential licensees.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

Does this duplicate and/or conflict with the existing process established for the health standards advisory board?

Does current law already provide a method for persons who have been restored to health to receive a license?

EF/lg