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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1-26-06

SPONSOR Salazar LAST UPDATED _____ HB 125

SHORT TITLE Pre & Postnatal Care to First-Time Parents SB _____

ANALYST Lucero

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$2,000.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates, Relates to, Conflicts with, Companion to

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act – HAFC is recommending \$500.0 recurring and \$1,000.0 non-recurring.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

House Bill 125 appropriates \$2,000.0 from the GENERAL FUND for expenditure in 2007 to Children, Youth and Families Department for the purpose of providing prenatal and postnatal home visitation services in certain counties throughout the state to families giving birth to a first child.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$2,000.0 contained in this bill is a RECURRING expense to the GENERAL FUND. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of 2007 shall revert to the GENERAL FUND.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The NM Developmental Disabilities Planning Council believes:

Prenatal and postnatal home visiting could help identify potential at-risk pregnancies and/or developmental delays after a child is born. This could result in early intervention services being provided that improve outcomes for both children and families.

According to the NM Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (NM PRAMS) through the Department of Health, teens are more likely to give birth to premature infants and low-birth weight infants. Many programs support teens with prenatal and postpartum interventions, but these services do not reach most new teen mothers. NM PRAMS also reports that 29% of new mothers in NM had late entry to prenatal care or no prenatal care at all. In addition, only 5% of women received a home visiting service during pregnancy and only 9% had any after delivery. Home visiting can improve parenting, maternal and infant outcomes, appropriate use of primary and preventive health care and long term health outcomes for infants, toddlers, and children.

CYFD is committed to improving the health and development of New Mexico children and families through voluntary Newborn Welcome visits with families. This strategy provides access to resources that are expected to improve the intellectual, emotional and physiological health and development of children from birth. According to the CYFD website their Teen Parent Service Program is currently in operation in Silver City, Santa Fe, Roswell, Clovis/Portales, Las Cruces, Farmington, and Grants. This program does not provide prenatal services.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Overall health and human service performance measures may be positively impacted. The Silver City program has experience few unwanted pregnancies and improved social outcomes from their program.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CYFD will absorb any additional administrative costs.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relationship: HAFC is recommending a \$500.0 recurring base appropriation for Home Visiting. HAFC is also recommending \$1,000.0 non-recurring special appropriation for Home Visiting.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

In FY06 CYFD piloted the Welcome Baby home visiting program. The Department plans on change the focus and direction of the pilot to a more intensive paraprofessional model. With HAFC recommending a total of \$1,500.0 for home visiting, it may be pre-mature to add additional funding during the early stages of the pilot.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

A child's development in the first three years of life is crucial to accomplishments in school, work and life. Home visiting by professionals and paraprofessionals to support parents during those first three years of life are the best method to make a positive difference in children's development. Children of first time parent(s) are at increased risk of poor outcomes associated with unmet needs for family support, inexperience, single parenthood, teen parenthood; and poor child care including abuse or neglect.

A model for home visiting to reduce the impact of these issues has been developed and implemented in the last few years by the health and social services community in Silver City and has proven very effective. HB 125 would support extending that community-based model to additional counties.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Families giving birth to their first child would not have access to information on parenting and child growth and development that this program would provide.

DL/yr