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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/26/06

SPONSOR Picraux LAST UPDATED _____ HB 488

SHORT TITLE Supportive Housing for Dual Diagnosis Women SB _____

ANALYST Lewis

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB 145.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)
 Human Services Department (HSD)
 New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 488 appropriates \$150,000 from the general fund to the Department of Health to contract for permanent supportive housing for women being released from jail or a correctional facility who have a dual diagnosis, co-occurring disorder of substance abuse addiction and a diagnosed mental health illness.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Department of Health (DOH), services under this bill could increase the number of persons served by DOH, because women coming out of jail or corrections with dual diagnoses may not be immediately eligible for Medicaid or other funding streams for their mental health and substance abuse treatment needs. The \$150,000 appropriation would fund approximately 10 women with dual diagnoses in permanent supportive housing after their release from jail or correctional facilities.

The New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) notes that this bill will open up another option for the Department to consider when paroling female offenders, and may help to reduce the women's prison population as well as probation/parole caseloads. NMCD also observes, however, that the bill does not specify a location, and notes that the neighborhood where the housing is located may be resistant to the housing of felons with mental health diagnosis in their area, especially if children are in the neighborhood.

ML/mt