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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Sandoval ORIGINAL DATE 2/4/06
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 814
SHORT TITLE Bernalillo Disabilities Services SB _____
ANALYST Lewis

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

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

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 813 (Services for Persons with Disabilities)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC)

Human Services Department (HSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 814 appropriates \$50,000 from the general fund to the Department of Health to contract with a nonprofit organization that provides services to persons with developmental disabilities, including a Prader-Willi program, for services in Bernalillo County to assist persons with disabilities to access their communities.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50,000 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 bill's sponsor, the appropriation is intended to support services provided to persons with disabilities by ARCA, a private nonprofit organization founded in 1957 by parents desiring community-based services for their family members with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities.

According to ARCA's web site at <http://www.arc-a.org/index.htm> ARCA operates more than 100 residences in the community and serves more than 400 individuals each year. The mission of ARCA's Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS) Project is to identify individuals with PWS or PWS-like conditions and to assist these individuals and their families in finding services that will promote their health and allow them to choose and achieve their life goals and fully experience community life.

The University of Michigan Health System's Prader-Willi home page describes Prader-Willi syndrome as a genetic syndrome that affects one in every 12,000-15,000 people of both sexes and all races and ethnic groups. It is caused by a disorder of chromosome 15. The major features of Prader-Willi are obesity, cognitive impairment, behavior problems, poor muscle tone, and less than normal sex hormones. The major health concerns for people with Prader-Willi are severe obesity and obesity-related problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, chronic venous insufficiency (leading to ulcers in legs and feet), cellulites and hypoventilation; strabismus (crossed eyes); scoliosis; early osteoporosis; sleep disturbances and sleep apnea; bedwetting; and dental problems, including soft tooth enamel, thick saliva, poor oral hygiene and teeth grinding. There is no cure for PWS at this time, though there are lots of health problems that need to be treated. With early diagnosis and a proactive approach, these kids' health, growth, and development can thrive. (<http://www.med.umich.edu/1libr/yourchild/praders.htm>)

The Department of Health (DOH) notes that DOH is required by the state procurement code to complete the RFP process for contract funding in the amount of \$50,000. HB 813 is not part of the DOH executive budget request.

The Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC), observing that this bill appears to be intended to provide funding to a specific organization, questions how many persons would be served; what services would be provided; and whether the funding will be used to help reduce the waiting list of over 3,400 people waiting for DD waiver services.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The DOH notes that administrative implication for the department would include staff time to conduct RFPs, execute a contract and monitor the implementation and completion of the contract.

ALTERNATIVES

The DDPC suggests that, instead of funding specific developmental disability (DD) providers, these funds could be used to help offset the list of persons across the state on the Central Registry who are waiting for DD services.