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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/2/06

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Cancer Prevention, Research & Education SB 470

ANALYST Lewis

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

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

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Similar to HB 581, which appropriates \$1,500,000 for cancer prevention, research & education.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)
Health Policy Commission (HPC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 470 appropriates \$300,000 from the general fund to the Department of Health to provide coordinated cancer prevention, research and education services in support of the department's statewide cancer plan.

The department shall provide the services through a nonprofit statewide network of health care providers engaged in conducting clinical trials, providing educational services to physicians and patients and coordinating with organizations that provide support services to cancer patients and their families.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300,000 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) this bill, though not part of the DOH's executive budget request, would provide coordinated cancer prevention, research and education services in support of the state's New Mexico Cancer Plan 2002-2006 (NMCP), which includes goals relating to reducing risks for cancer, increasing early detection and appropriate screening, access to care, and improved quality of life. The proposed activities would help align statewide cancer control efforts among 13 institutions involved in cancer research, over 85 cancer-care providers, and other community agencies and organizations. Cancer control partners include: UNM Cancer Research and Treatment Center, St. Vincent Regional Medical Center, Lovelace-Sandia Health Systems, Veteran's Administration Medical Center, and the American Cancer Society.

DOH adds that each year, an average of 6,553 new cases of cancer are diagnosed in New Mexico, and almost 3,000 people die from the disease (NM Tumor Registry, Annual Report, 2002).

Although DOH states that existing staff and resources of the DOH Comprehensive Cancer Program could implement the activities in this bill, the Health Policy Commission (HPC) observes that program has limited funding for cancer risk reduction and prevention education projects.

The HPC further notes that DOH's New Mexico Cancer Plan 2002-2006 asserts that there are no known methods of prevention or risk reduction for some cancers; there is no comprehensive method to educate the public about cancer risk education and prevention; and there is no requirement to have health education classes in the schools, although the American Cancer Society (ACS) has cancer prevention education programs available to schools.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

DOH notes that this bill relates to:

- the department's strategic plan and its mission to promote health and sound health policy, prevent disease and disability, improve health services systems and assure that essential public health functions and safety net services are available to New Mexicans; and to
- implementation of the New Mexico Cancer Plan 2002 – 2006.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to the DOH, existing staff and resources of the DOH Comprehensive Cancer Program could implement the activities in this bill.

ML/nt