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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/05/07

SPONSOR Varela LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 379

SHORT TITLE Substance Abuse Intervention Treatment SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Hanika Ortiz

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$1,300.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Public Defender Department (PDD)

Department of Health (DOH)

Human Services Department (HSD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 379 appropriates \$1.3 million from the general fund to the DOH to expand brief intervention treatment for substance abuse in New Mexico.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1.3 million contained in the bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the general fund. The appropriation request is not included in the Governor's Executive Budget for FY08.

Brief intervention services are being provided under the Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Brief Treatment (SBIRT) grant included in the Value Options New Mexico contract. The Department receives approximately \$3.5 million per year for five years from a federal substance abuse grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Association. The grant is currently in FY04 and will end in October 2008.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

DOH and HSD reports outcome data for individuals six months after receiving SBIRT services in New Mexico show a 65% decrease in days of alcohol consumption; as well as a 5.6% decrease in individuals having involvement with the criminal justice system. The findings also reveal a 13.4% increase in employment and/or education of individuals participating. There was a 10.4% improvement in the number of individuals securing permanent housing and a 30% improvement in the number of individuals who experienced no alcohol or illegal drug related health and behavioral social consequences. The survey reflected a need for the full range of SBIRT services to be available for positive outcomes to occur.

Brief interventions use time-limited, self-help and preventive strategies to promote reductions in the case of nondependent clients, and in the case of dependent clients to facilitate their referral to specialized treatment programs. The primary goal of brief interventions is to increase motivation for behavior change. Brief intervention outcomes have shown positive results. The program implements best practice protocols through the integration of primary care clinics and behavioral health service treatment agencies. As of November 2006, a total of 32,509 New Mexicans were screened for substance use through the SBIRT program of which 7,151 screened positive to receive services. Brief intervention was given to 4,470 clients of which 1,208 required brief treatment, and 204 were referred for specialty substance abuse treatment.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation requested will be managed through Value Options of New Mexico.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

In April 2005, Value Options New Mexico (VONM) was selected as the Statewide Entity for the New Mexico Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative. VONM is the New Mexico-based organization responsible for maintaining the behavioral health provider network and managing the service delivery system in New Mexico.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

Additional funding may not be available to expand brief intervention treatment for substance abuse in New Mexico.

AHO/nt