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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR King ORIGINAL DATE 2/13/07
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 711
SHORT TITLE Dental Services for Underserved Children SB _____
ANALYST Geisler

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates: SB 582

Relates to: several bills

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 711 would appropriate \$100,000 from the general fund to the Department of Health (DOH) in Fiscal Year 2008 to contract with a nonprofit company to provide dental services, including comprehensive examinations, oral cancer screening, x-rays, cleaning, fluoride treatment and sealants, and oral health education to underserved children statewide who have little access to dental professionals and who are at high risk for dental disease. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of the Fiscal Year 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Both the executive and legislative recommendations include in the PHD base \$750,000 for dental contract services and \$231,000 to the University of New Mexico. In addition, both recommendations include \$90,000 for dental care and support (client driven, eligibility based)

services. The Legislative Finance Committee has also recommended \$250,000 for oral health services expansion.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The need for oral health care is the most prevalent unmet health care need among children and adolescents (Child and Adolescent Health Issues, 2004, National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center). Tooth decay is the most common childhood disease, and is five times more common than asthma. Annually, 56 million school hours are lost as a result of dental disease among children.

The 2000 New Mexico Children's Oral Health Survey has identified that 65% of New Mexico children have experienced tooth decay and 37% have untreated tooth decay. The New Mexico Oral Health Surveillance System Report has identified that 27% of 3rd grade children did not obtain needed dental care within a given year, and 10% of 3rd grade children have never been to a dentist.

The intent of HB 711 is to expand existing dental health services to underserved children statewide who have little access to dental professionals and who are at high risk for dental disease.

DUPLICATION AND RELATIONSHIP

HB 711 duplicates SB 582. As noted under fiscal impact, the Legislative Finance Committee recommendation for the FY08 DOH budget includes an expansion of \$250,000 thousand for children's oral health. HB 711 relates to:

- HB 102, which would appropriate funds to develop and implement a rural oral health intervention and prevention program for children up to four years of age who are members of the Navajo Nation;
- HB 242, which would create the Dental Hygienist Student Loan for Service Act;
- SB 35 which would appropriate start-up funds for dental hygiene programs to various educational institutions in the State;
- SB 173, which would appropriate funds to operate mobile dental health clinics in southern New Mexico.

GG/csd