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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/09/07

SPONSOR Rodella LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 1110

SHORT TITLE Rio Arriba Tribal Substance Abuse Programs SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Weber

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

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

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

Human Services Department (HSD)

Department of health (DOH)

Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 1110 appropriates \$110 thousand from the general fund to the Indian Affairs Department to fund tribal programs by Indian Nations, tribes and pueblos in Rio Arriba County to address substance abuse prevention and intervention.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of Fiscal Year 2008 shall revert to the general fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Indian Affairs Department notes that the bill provides funding for tribal programs to address substance abuse by Native Americans in Rio Arriba County, and especially for programs that

serve members of the Jicarilla Apache Nation (“the Nation”). According to Nation President Levi Pesata, the Nation faces a substance abuse epidemic, particularly in the form of alcohol consumption. The programs would address current abusers and also younger at-risk tribal members through prevention measures.

A mix of innovative, self-help oriented and other approaches will be utilized to treat substance abuse in the programs. In particular, “brief intervention” programs, which emphasize self-help and are designed to increase motivation for behavior change among non-dependant users, will be integral. For those who suffer from dependency, short-term residential detoxification programs will be offered.

HSD and DOH offer the following similar information. The bill does not specify what is meant by “intervention,” so it is possible that substance abuse treatment services for Medicaid-eligible individuals 18 years of age and under might be provided, which would then make those services eligible for a federal Medicaid match. However, Medicaid does not cover traditional healing services and cultural teaching activities, so these services would not be eligible for federal match.

The majority of behavioral health funding is overseen by the Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative. IAD is a member agency. It is assumed that these funds will flow through, and be administered by, the Statewide Entity, ValueOptions of New Mexico.

Compared with other Americans, it is reported that Native Americans experience an overall lower health status and rank at, or near, the bottom of other social, educational and economic indicators. Native Americans have a life expectancy rate of four years less than the overall U.S. population and die at higher rates due to a variety of diseases including diabetes, alcoholism, cervical cancer, suicide, heart disease, and tuberculosis.

MW/nt