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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/26/07
 LAST UPDATED 2/7/07

SPONSOR Altamirano HB _____

SHORT TITLE Peace Officer Benefits to Survivors SB 433/aSFC

ANALYST Peery-Galon

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Responses Received From

Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Attorney General (AG)

New Mexico Municipal League

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SFC Amendment

The Senate Finance Committee amendment changes the supplemental death benefits payable to a spouse, children or parents for a peace officer killed in the line of duty to \$250,000.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 433 increases the supplemental death benefits payable to a surviving spouse, children or parents of a peace officer killed in the line of duty from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The NM Municipal League states the increase in supplemental death benefits is to be funded from the existing Peace Officers' Survivors Fund with no additional appropriation. The NM Municipal League states the Peace Officers' Survivors Fund should be monitored to insure sufficient funds to make disbursements in accordance with the proposed legislation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Section 29-13-7 NMSA 1978 states the Peace Officers' Survivors Fund is to maintain a minimum amount of \$350 thousand. This minimum amount may be insufficient if the supplemental death benefits payable increases to \$250 thousand.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

DPS states survivors of law enforcement officers may suffer unnecessary hardship. DPS reports the original benefit amount is no longer sufficient to ensure families get a new start after losing what is usually a typical primary provider for their needs.

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