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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/24/2007

SPONSOR Ortiz y Pino LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Provisional Licensure Time Period SB 998

ANALYST Schuss

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates HB 1104

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Attorney General's Office (AGO)
 New Mexico Corrections Department (CD)
 Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 998 amends the Social Work Practice Act regarding provisional licensure time period. SB 998 states that the provisional license is valid for a period not to exceed one year.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to CD, this bill would allow social workers to provide services for at least one year under a provisional license versus the status quo of being only able to practice until the results of the first written qualified examination are available (sometimes only a few months). This would give new social workers a larger window in which to get fully licensed or have to cease practicing social work. This has the potential of reducing staff turnover since the department would be able to employ new social workers who are provisionally licensed for at least a year rather than the status quo of a few months before forcing them to terminate for failure to become fully licensed.

BS/mt