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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/20/2007

SPONSOR Garcia, M.J. LAST UPDATED 3/16/2007 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Study Extent of Human Trafficking SJM 24/a SJC

ANALYST Wilson

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY07	FY08	FY09	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$0.1	\$0.1		Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)
Relates to HJM 22

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SJC Amendment

The amendment proposed by the Senate Judiciary Committee replaces a reference to the Secretary of Public Safety with the Attorney General's Office (AGO) in regards to who will chair the task force and removes the AGO as an additional member to the task force.

The amendment replaces the word may, with shall in regards to other members of the task force.

The amendment removes sections that describe the duties of the task force and replaces them with the following:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force investigate collaborative models for protecting victims of trafficking and recommend improvements in services and coordination of services for persons who have been the victims of human trafficking; analyze existing state criminal statutes for their adequacy in providing for protection of and provision of services to victims; and consult with governmental and non-governmental organizations to develop recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of trafficking and prosecute traffickers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its findings and recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative committee during the 2008 interim; and

Senate Joint Memorial 24/a SJC– Page 2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the attorney general, the secretary of labor and the governor.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 24 requests the secretary of the Department of Public Safety to assemble and chair a task force. The task force should consist of a representative of the Attorney General's Office (AGO), the United States Attorney's Office; the Labor Department, the Department of Health and the Children, Youth and Families Department and. the Commission on the Status of Women.

The task force may also include representatives from the New Mexico coalition against domestic violence; the southwest women's law center; an immigrant or refugee rights center; a refugee services organization; a child and youth advocacy organization; an interfaith religious organization, or a mental health services advocacy organization; or a human rights or social justice advocacy organization. and other members as deemed necessary.

The purpose of the task force will be to:

- assess the nature and extent of human trafficking in New Mexico
- assess state responses to date
- make recommendations to the legislature for development of state law to prosecute traffickers
- study the nature and extent of human trafficking in this state
- investigate collaborative models for protecting victims of trafficking
- evaluate New Mexico's progress in preventing trafficking
- evaluate approaches by other state and local governments to increase public awareness of human trafficking
- analyze existing laws dealing with trafficking

According to the memorial the task force must prepare a report detailing its findings and recommendations, including methods to address human trafficking and to provide a coordinated system of support and assistance to its victims.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The task force report its findings and recommendations to the governor and the legislature by July 1, 2008.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The agencies serving on the task force will have to absorb any costs with there current funding.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Human trafficking is a serious problem in the United States and throughout the world.

Human traffickers prey on the most vulnerable and turn a commercial profit at the expense of innocent lives.

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Victims of trafficking are recruited, transported or sold into all forms of forced labor and servitude, including prostitution, sweatshops, domestic service and farming.

Each year an estimated 600,000 to 800,000 women, men and children are trafficked against their will across international borders, 14,500 to 17,500 of whom are trafficked into the United States.

Approximately eighty percent of trafficking victims are female and seventy percent of those female victims are trafficked for sex and the commercial sex industry; and

The southwest border continues to serve as the biggest point of illegal entry into the United States, largely because traffickers are able to get undocumented people across without documents.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Agencies on the task force will have to absorb any administrative cost involved by serving on the task force.

RELATIONSHIP

SJM 24 is very similar to HJM 22, but not identical

DW/mt