

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/22/07

SPONSOR Feldman LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Youth Children and Family Continuum Workgroup SB SM 27

ANALYST Lucero

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY07	FY08	FY09	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		Minimal		Minimal	Non- Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates HM 03; Relates to SM 03

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Human Services Department (HSD)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 27 directs that a young children and families continuum work group be appointed to develop recommendations to improve access to services for families, improve the lives of their children and set a foundation for school and personal success; and

- ◆ That the group be appointed equally by the chair of the Children's Cabinet and the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee, with the consent of the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate, and include a diverse group of no more than 16 persons representing the Early Childhood Action Network; child health and development, mental health, early care, education and human services community providers; advocates, businesses and faith communities; the media; academia; and child development research fields;
- ◆ That the group include family representatives and members representing the cultural, ethnic, economic and geographic diversity of the state and have knowledge and experience of the health, mental health, education and social needs of young children birth to age eight and their families;

Senate Memorial 27 – Page 2

- ◆ That the group make priorities for investment over the next three years to strengthen a comprehensive statewide early childhood system to address the following areas: family involvement and family support; physical and mental health; early learning; child safety; and transition from early childhood to school;
- ◆ That the group make recommendations on a continuum of services to better coordinate and link components of a comprehensive system; and

That it report its recommendations to the committee by November 2007.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant fiscal implications to HSD or CYFD. The Memorial does not specifically mention participation by HSD. Because HSD administers many programs that are concerned with the health and well-being of children and families, it is quite possible that someone from the Department would serve on this work group. If that be the case, there would be minimal administrative costs.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED states that SM 027 is a duplication of an already existing advisory group charged with making recommendations on the same set of issues regarding young children. SM 027 has no fiscal impact on PED.

The tasks proposed for the work group would need to coordinate with the current work of the Early Childhood Action Network (ECAN), a subcommittee of the Children's Cabinet

Children's Cabinet; and though I am proud of *all* the work the eleven Cabinet Secretaries.

Many of the programs within HSD: Medicaid, TANF, Food Stamps, Child Support Enforcement, and others, exist to provide assistance to children and families, especially those most in need.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None identified at this time

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There will be a slight administrative cost to each of the state agencies involved in the

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Duplicates HM 03; Relates to SM 03

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Early Childhood Action Network¹ (ECAN) is a group of New Mexicans who make recommendations on how to improve the well-being of young children birth to age five and their families. The Early Childhood Action Network (ECAN) goals include:

- 1) Improve the well being of all NM's young children and families
- 2) Improve the system of early childhood services that touch their lives

Early Childhood is the most critical developmental period in a person's life and sets the stage for the future health and productivity of adulthood. We know that children who face serious disadvantage can be supported, prepared and ready to succeed if:

- 1) Soon after birth their families receive support and education through home visiting and family resource programs
- 2) Children and their families have access to a high quality medical home or services
- 3) Between infancy and pre-school, developmental delays are identified early and addressed through early intervention
- 4) Children of working parents receive high quality early care and learning services
- 5) All children have access to voluntary, yet quality pre-school

ALTERNATIVES

Expand ECAN membership to include legislative members.

DL/nt