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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/26/08
 LAST UPDATED 2/02/08 HB _____

SPONSOR Kernan

SHORT TITLE Breast Cancer Awareness License Plates SB 178/aSFC

ANALYST Earnest

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09	FY10		
NFI	NFI*	**	Recurring	MVD operating
NFI	NFI*	**	Recurring	Department of Health Operating Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

* TRD reports that any new plates cannot be produced until FY10. See administrative impact section for more detail.

**TRD did not estimate the number of plates that might be needed.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD)

Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SFC Amendment

The Senate Finance Committee amendment changes the purpose of the funding from “breast cancer research and education” to breast cancer screening, outreach and education.”

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 178 creates a new license plate promoting awareness and providing a funding source for breast cancer research and education. The fee for the plate is thirty-five dollars in addition to the regular registration fees. This fee is required every year with the owner’s registration to retain the special plate. Ten dollars of the additional fee will defray the cost of making and issuing the special plate, and twenty-five dollars will be distributed to the Department of Health for funding breast cancer research and education.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

TRD has no information to indicate the number of these special plates that might be requested. The cost of each plate would be \$35, with \$10 being retained by MVD and \$25 distributed to the Department of Health for breast cancer research and education.

Approximately 25,000 special plates are currently issued for 22 different issues. The most common are the veterans of various armed services (9,269 total) and collegiate plates (8,957 total), but several of the special plates have been issued in much smaller quantities.

This bill provides for continuing appropriations. The LFC has concerns with including continuing appropriation language in the statutory provisions for newly created funds, as earmarking reduces the ability of the legislature to establish spending priorities.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Department of Health:

Approximately 1,100 women are diagnosed with invasive breast cancer each year in New Mexico. During the same time period approximately 220 women will die from breast cancer. These statistics do not include in situ cancers that have not invaded surrounding tissues. Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in the state across all racial/ethnic groups. Breast cancer accounts for one-third of cancer cases in women, but less than 20 percent of the cancer deaths. (New Mexico Cancer Facts and Figures, 2007, accessed January 17, 2008 from: http://www.cancernm.org/cancercouncil/pdf/NMCFE_Facts-figures07.pdf).

The Department of Health's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection (BCC) Program provides screening and diagnosis for women ages 30 to 64 who are uninsured or underinsured, and who live at or below 250% of the federal poverty level. Based on recent analyses of census data (2006 Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement), 90,804 New Mexican women ages 30 to 64 are eligible to receive services from the BCC Program. Current federal and state funding levels, however, are sufficient to serve only about 15% of those eligible women. Last year, the BCC Program served 13,182 New Mexican women

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

TRD reports that since the implementation of several special registration plates over the past few years, the revenue accounting system of the Motor Vehicle Division has run out of revenue codes to implement additional special registration plates. All new special registration plates must be assigned a revenue code so the plate can be programmed into the system and the associated funds distributed appropriately. Without any revenue codes available, no additional special registration plates can be implemented into the existing system. In order to accommodate new special registration plates, a re-write of the revenue accounting system will need to occur. The LFC and Executive are recommending a new revenue system. If funded, the new system will be deployed by January 1, 2010.

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