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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/19/09

SPONSOR Campos LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Las Vegas Youth Commission Statewide Goals SB 602

ANALYST Hoffmann

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)
 Youth Conservation Corps (YCC)
 Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)
 Juvenile Parole Board (JPB)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 602 appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration for expenditure in fiscal year 2010 to support the Las Vegas Youth Commission in efforts to implement youth commissions statewide.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100,000 contained in this bill is a RECURRING expense to the GENERAL FUND. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2010 shall revert to the General Fund.

According to the February 2008 revenue estimate from the Legislative Finance Committee, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$575 million less than the FY09 appropriations before the 2009 solvency reductions. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The CYFD reports that it currently provides \$2,740,500 in funding to Juvenile Justice Continuum Boards in 16 counties through the Juvenile Continuum Act. It is unclear how Las Vegas Youth Commission activities, or the implementation of youth commissions elsewhere in the state, would tie into the Continuum Boards.

The YCC notes that though Senate Bill 602 will provide \$100.0 to be used towards establishing youth commissions throughout New Mexico, this effort may need to receive funding for several years. Even with continual funding, because the Las Vegas Youth Commission is so closely associated with the Las Vegas community, other communities may not be as receptive to this concept as if they heard the message from an organization that has a statewide identity. Additional funding may be needed to help other youth commissions get started.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The YCC comments that Senate Bill 602 states that the Las Vegas Youth Commission will use the funds in efforts to implement youth commissions statewide. There is already an advocacy program for youth called the Youth Alliance, which is connected to the Children’s Cabinet. The Youth Alliance’s goal is to host four meetings a year for youth representatives to discuss issues that impact youth and the communities in which they live. The youth representatives who attended the meeting then disseminate findings from these meetings to local community youth programs.

The DFA notes that the new Youth Commissions would provide programs aimed at helping at-risk youths deal with current problems affecting their lives (ex: underage drinking, suicide, substance abuse, abstinence, etc.).

CH/svb:mc