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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/05/09

SPONSOR Campos LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Create Dept. of Public Safety Gang Program SJM 38

ANALYST Weber

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		Indeterminate	Indeterminate	Indeterminate	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

A 2008 United States Department of Justice (DOJ) National Gang Intelligence Center report shows that criminal gangs in the United States have swelled to an estimated 1 million members and are responsible for up to 80 percent of crimes committed in communities across the nation. The Center estimates that there are 680 gangs with approximately 13,800 members in New Mexico. There are approximately 5 to 7 gang members per 1,000 residents in New Mexico, making it one of the top five states in per capita in gang membership. There are approximately 4 to 6 gang members per every law enforcement officer in New Mexico, the 3rd highest ratio in the nation. According to the DOJ statistics, 50 percent of all crimes committed in Bernalillo County are gang related. In March, 2008, Crime State Rankings 2008 listed New Mexico as the 3rd most dangerous state in the country. In addition, there is a large influx of gang members from other states to New Mexico.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the Department of Public Safety is requested to create a gang reduction, intervention and prevention program to consolidate and centralize statewide efforts and resources for prevention, intervention and suppression of gang activity that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the Secretary.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

DPS does not have a gang unit presently but does participate in the New Mexico Gang Task Force. There would be some implementation expense primarily related to training in what is a somewhat specialized field. Continuing expense would be proportional to the size of the unit necessary to make it effective.

MW/mc