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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/08/10
 SPONSOR Rodriguez LAST UPDATED 02/09/10 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE Interim Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee SB 264
 ANALYST Chabot

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY10	FY11		
	\$2.4	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB1

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY10	FY11	FY12	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$2.4	\$2.4	\$4.8	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Related to SJM1

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD)
 Commission for the Blind (CB)
 Commission for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (CDHH)
 Department of Health (DOH)
 Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC)
 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)
 Human Services Department (HSD)
 New Mexico Health Policy Commission (HPC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 264 creates the Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee as permanent subcommittee of the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee (LHHS). It will be composed of six

members equally split between the House and Senate with party membership reflective of membership in the respective branch. However, one minority party member must be appointed from each house.

The subcommittee will conduct a continuing study of programs, agencies, policies, issues and needs relating to individuals with disabilities including review of statutes, constitutional provisions and court decisions while studying the full continuum of programs and services available. Findings will be reported to LHHS by October 1 of each year.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The subcommittee for disabilities of the LHHS met for two days during the 2009 interim; per diem and expenses were \$2.4 thousand. These funds are in the Legislative Council budget.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Programs related to disabilities are found in seven separate executive agencies listed above in agencies responding to the FIR request. As a result, coordination issues could occur because of the overlapping responsibilities of these programs. In 2009, House Memorial 105, Disabilities Concerns Committee, was passed 64-0 to request Legislative Council establish a committee on disabilities.

HPC reports there are approximately 196 thousand people in New Mexico with some type of disability.

CB states “if the legislature is able to obtain better and more detailed information, it would have the information and understanding necessary to better the work of the Commission....”

ALTSD suggests if there are Legislators with disabilities, they should be considered for appointment to the subcommittee.

DVR is “supportive of any effort to educate and promote the interests of persons with disabilities” and it would be beneficial for legislators “to be educated and aware of prevailing issues affecting the disability community at large.”

DDPC states “each agency in New Mexico is already responsible for providing services to people with disabilities...but are not coordinated with regard to information collection and reporting.” There should be a coordinating body to “conduct strategic planning for the service needs of people with disabilities.”

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

HSD and DOH note there maybe additional reporting and testimony required by the subcommittee.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

DDPC advises procedures may have to be developed in collection and reporting of confidential data.

ALTERNATIVES

Section 2-13-3 NMSA 1978 provides LHHS authority to created subcommittees as needed. A subcommittee on disabilities could be created by the committee.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

There would be no permanent disabilities subcommittee of LHHS.

GAC/svb:mew