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

SPONSOR Ste	ORIGINAL DA ewart LAST UPDAT		35/aHJC						
SHORT TITLE	3								
ANALYST Segura APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)									
	Appropriation	Recurring	Fund						

FY12

or Non-Rec

Affected

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

FY11

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

None

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		Minimal				unknown

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Responses Not Received From
Administrative Office of the District Attorney
Public Defender Office
Attorney General Office

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HJC Amendment

House Joint Memorial 35 was amended by the House Judiciary Committee on February 11, 2011. The roll call vote was 13 for, 0 against.

The most significant part of the amendment to HJM 35 is the addition of the City of Albuquerque Police Department to participate in the task force. HJM35/a continues to mandate

House Joint Memorial 35/aHJC - Page 2

the Secretary of Public Safety to convene a task force and conduct a study to improve the process of submission of biological material by law enforcement agencies to forensic laboratories and of records from forensic laboratories to the DNA administrative center. A report by the task force on the findings and recommendations on how to ensure that state law is being followed shall be presented to the appropriate interim legislative committee by October 2011.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Joint Memorial 35 requests the Secretary of Public Safety to convene a task force to study whether all of the state's law enforcement agencies are collecting and submitting biological material from sexual assault victims in a timely and uniform manner and whether qualifying records are being entered into the National Index System.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

According to Department of Public Safety, a task force may require minimal expenses to coordinate and train law enforcement agencies around the state.

Also, the forensic laboratories may experience budget constraints due to additional case work.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Department of Public Safety indicates that the task force would have to determine number of untested assault kits outstanding and the reason for them not been turned over to forensic lab. The benefit of testing all sexual assault evidence kits, is the ability of the DNA database to link potential serial rape cases or link to other criminal activity.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

In addition, DPS states that the task force could be instrumental in creating a cooperative effort to assist law enforcement agencies develop a standard plan.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Would be incorporated within the current responsibilities of the department.

RS/svb