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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR	Gen	try	ORIGINAL DATE LAST UPDATED	2/23/2015	HB	477
SHORT TITLE		Insurance Broker P	ayments To Estates		SB	

ANALYST Clark

<u>REVENUE</u> (dollars in thousands)

	Estimated Revenue	Recurring	Fund	
FY15	FY16	FY17	or Nonrecurring	Affected
	No Fiscal Impact			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

<u>Responses Received From</u> Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 477 amends Section 59A-12-24 NMSA 1978 of the Insurance Code to clarify that nothing in the Insurance Code shall be deemed to prohibit the payment of a commission, compensation, or other valuable consideration to the estate of a deceased agent or broker if that agent or broker would otherwise be entitled to it.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Currently, the Insurance Code does not explicitly address the obligation of an insurance carrier to remit to the state of a deceased insurance agent or broker the payment of commissions and other remunerations that would have been due to that agent or broker. However, the language in the bill might not completely resolve the current ambiguity regarding payments to estates of deceased agents or brokers. The Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI) suggests the following language be used instead:

House Bill 477 – Page 2

"E. The death of an agent or broker shall not abnegate the payment of a commission, compensation or other valuable consideration to the estate of the deceased agent or broker when such payment would have been due the agent or broker in the absence of his death."

JC/aml/je