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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE

SPONSOR Candelaria & Maestas **LAST UPDATED** 01/29/15 **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE ABQ West Mesa High School Health Clinic **SB** 235

ANALYST Lucero

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 235 appropriates \$150 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Health (DOH) for expenditure in fiscal year 2016 to operate a school-based health clinic (SBHC) at West Mesa High School in Albuquerque.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 235 appropriates \$150 thousand from the general fund to DOH for expenditure in fiscal year 2016. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year 2016 shall revert to the general fund.

The appropriation in the bill was not included in the Legislative Finance Committee or the executive budget recommendations.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

West Mesa High School is part of the community school initiative organized by the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County and is proposing a new school-based health center in the

Albuquerque area. A community school is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. It has an integrated focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development, and community engagement.

DOH reports it is not clear as to whether or not the facility is capable of housing a clinic. It is also unclear whether West Mesa High School has the support from the school district to create one. The DOH Office of School and Adolescent Health would only be able to work with West Mesa High School if an approved facility and available providers were in place.

As reported by DOH, New Mexico SBHCs currently funded by the department serve 53 school campuses in 26 counties throughout New Mexico. Over 33,000 adolescents have access to a SBHC and more than 10,400 visited one of these SBHCs and received a total of 43,056 visits during the 2013-2014 school year. Of all visits provided, 65 percent were primary care visits and 35 percent were behavioral health visits. The leading diagnostic code, or type of visits, included a comprehensive well child exam or adjustment reaction disorder. Low income and uninsured status are associated with a high risk of not getting a check-up. Additional services provided at SBHCs include: sports physicals, immunizations, health promotion/education, lab tests, reproductive health services, and oral health care.

DOH reports that an analysis of school-based health care administered to the 14,500 students in New Mexico in school year 2012-2013 revealed a projected savings of \$20.1 million compared the total SBHC budget of \$3.3 million, or, in other words, **NM SBHCs yielded a return on investment of \$6.07 for every dollar expended** (Ginn and Associates, 2013). Some of the savings include:

- A projected annual net hospitalization savings of \$206,725.00 for asthmatic students,
- A projected annual net savings of \$692,827.00 from early detection and treatment of gonorrhea and Chlamydia,
- A projected lifetime net savings of \$1,033,216.00 due to mental health services provided at SBHCs, and
- A projected annual net savings of \$690,557.00 due to projected decrease in prescription drug costs. (Ginn and Associates, 2013).

Additionally, DOH states that SBHCs address many of the barriers to health care access for school-aged children; because SBHCs are located where children spend a significant amount of their time, scheduling and transportation barriers are minimized. SBHCs also address financial barriers by helping enroll eligible students in Medicaid and offering free services for uninsured students. SBHCs increase adolescent health care use, particularly for sexual health issues, drug or alcohol problems, and mental health problems by providing convenient and confidential care in a familiar setting. Students who use SBHCs have also been shown to have high satisfaction with their health status and learning environment and have healthier behaviors and attitudes, such as more physical activity and greater consumption of healthier foods.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

SB235 relates to the DOH FY14 strategic plan to improve health outcomes for the New Mexicans.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation would be dispersed following state procurement rules and would not require additional program resources for DOH.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act, duplicates SB15, and relates to SB44 which would also provide funding for school based health centers.

DL/bb