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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lujan/Cadena/Ferrary/Gallegos/Jaramillo **LAST UPDATED** _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/9/23
SHORT TITLE Housing & Behavioral Health Services **BILL NUMBER** House Bill 358
ANALYST Esquibel

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
	\$1,843.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
 *Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT* (dollars in thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
BHSD staff		\$49.5		\$49.5	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
 *Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Duplicates Senate Bill 162

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Corrections Department (NMCD)
 Human Services Department (HSD)
 Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 358

House Bill 358, (HB358) would appropriate \$1.8 million from the general fund to the Human Services Department to provide funding to an organization in Dona Ana County implementing a transitional housing program in an approximately 32 bed facility for people with serious mental illnesses (SMI), people who have substance use disorder (SUD), and people who have recently been released from incarceration.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1.8 million contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY24 shall revert to the general fund.

The Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD) of the Human Services Department (HSD) reports BHSD operates three crisis housing units each with a budget of \$40 thousand annually. Increasing the budget of this program by 150 percent as proposed in the bill would require additional staff time of 0.5 FTE pay band 70, calculated at \$49.5 thousand annually including salary, fringe benefits, and operational costs.

HB358 relates to an appropriation in the General Appropriation Act including \$1 million recurring funding in the LFC recommendation for the Linkages housing program at BHSD and \$20 million in nonrecurring funding for the Linkages program in the Executive's special appropriation recommendation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

BHSD notes according to the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness Point in Time Report, as of January 2022, there were 154 unhoused and unsheltered individuals in Doña Ana County.

BHSD's crisis housing program provides temporary, transitional housing for individuals who would otherwise be homeless and with serious mental illness being discharged from psychiatric centers, hospitals, jails, or other institutional settings. The program offers 120-day maximum stay in short-term housing with support services to include and not limited to life skills, income entitlements reinstatement assistance, employment, and support with finding permanent housing in the community of choice. The program serves approximately 45 to 50 single beneficiaries annually.

RAE/al