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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR <u>Parajón</u>	LAST UPDATED <u>02/07/2024</u> ORIGINAL DATE <u>02/02/2024</u>
SHORT TITLE <u>LGBTQ Health Care Training</u>	BILL NUMBER <u>House Bill 289</u>
	ANALYST <u>Chilton</u>

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

FY24	FY25	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$250.0	Recurring	General Fund

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

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT* (dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
DOH		\$16.1		\$16.1	Nonrecurring	General Fund

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

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency Analysis Received From
 Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 289

House Bill 289 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Health for the purpose of contracting with agencies within New Mexico communities that deal with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer individuals in order to train health care providers on the laws dealing with LGBTQ individuals and on rights and best practices of providers and patients relative to these laws and inclusivity. An educational campaign on HIV prevention and testing would be part of the effort.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns, or May 15, 2024, if enacted.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense, in that new providers and patients would continue to need to be trained on these issues, to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY25 shall revert to the general fund.

The DOH estimate of its costs is detailed as follows: “Estimated additional operational costs would be for approximately 0.1 FTE staff time to manage the effort (developing a Request for Proposals, evaluating the training, ensuring delivery of the program, and evaluations). For a General Manager I position (Pay band 90 - \$79,459-\$127,134/year – midpoint \$103,297) this would be $\$103,297 * 0.1 = \$10,330$. Desktop software (\$699/FTE/year), phones (\$1,724.40/FTE/year), IT Enterprise costs (\$1,500/year), and office space (\$54,000/year) would add an additional $\$57,923 * 0.1 = \$5,792$ /year. Therefore, total would be $\$10,330 + \$5,792 = \$16,122$.”

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to a 2017 article in *Federal Practitioner*, a survey of community-based outpatient clinic health care providers suggests the need for additional education and training to increase their cultural competencies. Only 15 percent of 72 primary care providers stated that they had received training on LGBTQ issues. Questioned about their knowledge of LGBTQ issues, the providers showed marked deficiencies in their knowledge.

Another study of 6,450 transgender and nonconforming participants reveals, discrimination is frequently experienced in accessing health care with 19 percent indicating they were denied care, and 28 percent indicating their care was postponed due to perceived harassment and violence within a health care setting. (http://www.thetaskforce.org/static_html/downloads/reports/reports/ntds_full.pdf)

Inasmuch as LGBTQ individuals are at increased risk of a number of adverse health outcomes, including sexually transmitted diseases, substance use disorders, depression, and suicide, training for individual providers in aspects of caring for LGBTQ individuals is likely to improve health in these populations.

A number of community organizations in New Mexico already train providers in these areas, including the Presbyterian Hospital System, Santa Fe Pride, and the Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico, but the reach of these educational efforts is limited at this time. Medical care providers are constantly in need of continuing medical education and are given a great many opportunities to receive it. It would be of importance to the contracting agencies to determine how best to help providers prioritize education on LGBTQ issues over all the other competing types of continuing medical education available. In addition, it would be important in that regard that continuing education credits be available for the education provided.

LAC/al/ne/cf