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F I S C A L I M P A C T R E P O R T

SPONSOR: Lopez DATE TYPED: 1/31/02 HB

SHORT TITLE: Repealing Delayed Repeal of Child Health Care Act SB 272

ANALYST: Weber

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
			NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

New Mexico Health Policy Commission
Attorney General

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

SB-272 repeals Laws 1998, Chapter 52, Section 9. Section 9 repeals what is commonly known as the Child Health Care Act effective July 1, 2002. The purpose of this act is to enable the state to provide child-care health assistance to uninsured low-income children and their families. Low-income children and their families are defined in the act as children who have not reached their 19th birthday with a family income at or below 235% of the federal poverty level.

Significant Issues

The Human Services Department reports that if the Child Health Care Act is repealed the agency can continue to administer the SCHIP program for children in the Federal poverty level range of 185-235%, but on a regulatory basis rather than statutory. If Section 9 is repealed, the statute will require continuing coverage for children up to 235% of the federal poverty level.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None

MW/njw