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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Rodriguez DATE TYPED: 1/31/03 HB _____

SHORT TITLE: Services for Deaf Persons SB 198

ANALYST: Weber

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
\$100.0				Recurring	General Fund

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From
Commission for the Deaf and hard of Hearing

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 198 appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing to contract for expanding statewide outreach efforts, including case management and sign language interpretation for deaf and hard of hearing persons. The bill contains an emergency clause making funds available for Fiscal Years 2003 and 2004.

Significant Issues

The Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing reports it has administered this type of fund for the past three years. The services are contracted with oversight maintained by the agency.

This agency defines and then oversees the contractor performance in conjunction with the agency's performance based goals. One of the primary performance goals is to increase and improve access to services for deaf and hard of hearing New Mexicans. Senate Bill 198 is in direct response to community needs brought directly to the commission and also in response to statutory duties. Performance will be recorded and reported.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of Fiscal Year 2004 shall revert to the General Fund.

MW/njw/lb