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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/27/06  
 LAST UPDATED 2/6/06      HB 92/aHEC/aHJC

SPONSOR Powdrell-Culbert

SHORT TITLE Camino Nuevo Client Trauma Treatment      SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Earp

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$300.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

- Higher Education Department (HED)
- Corrections Department (CD)
- Children, Youth & Families Department (CYFD)

### SUMMARY

Synopsis of HJC Amendment

The House Judiciary Committee amendment strikes the House Education Committee amendments, thereby returning the bill to its original status as described below.

Synopsis of HEC Amendments

The House Education Committee amendments remove the words “during and” from the title and body of the bill. The impact of these changes is to limit the use of the appropriation to the provision of trauma treatment for Camino Nuevo clients *after* their incarceration.

The Corrections Department submitted a revised analysis dated 1/27/06 indicating support for this legislation relative to provision of trauma care *after* incarceration. Once a woman is discharged from the Camino Nuevo prison, and/or is placed on probation or parole in the community, then the Corrections Department does not have the obligation, funds or other resources to provide medical/psychiatric treatment to that woman. The department would welcome any and all treatment that the University of New Mexico could provide to all such women after incarceration.

tion because it would obviously be good for the women to get the treatment they need. It would also be good for the department because it would help these women better transition back into the community, and could help reduce recidivism rates. However, the department indicates provision of services by UNM while the women are still incarcerated would duplicate the services provided by the Corrections Department. This would be an inefficient and problematic use of the appropriated money.

### Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 92 appropriates \$300,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico for the Family and Community Medicine Program to provide trauma treatment for Camino Nuevo clients during and after incarceration. Camino Nuevo is a women's correctional facility for parole violators located in Albuquerque.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$300,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

This request was not included on the list of priority projects submitted by UNM to the HED for review. Consequently, this request was not included in the Department's fiscal year 2007 funding recommendations.

The Corrections Department notes serious concerns about this proposal as outlined below:

- If intended to fund on-site or off-site medical services, it should be noted that the cost of providing medical services to 100 female inmates far exceeds \$300,000.
- If intended for off-site medical services, the appropriation indirectly subsidizes the Corrections Department's obligation to provide adequate medical care.
- This represents a duplication of services as the Corrections Department is already obligated to provide on-site and off-site medical services for incarcerated inmates in accordance with generally accepted medical practices.
- If intended to fund on-site and off-site services, this bill could result in competing interests in the provision of medical services to inmates, allowing inmates to play providers against each other. This could result in a slower delivery of services to inmates.
- The Corrections Department has an existing contract with Wexford to provide on-site and off-site medical services and does not have a contract with the University of New Mexico for trauma treatment services. If the Corrections Department is hindered from fulfilling its contractual obligations to Wexford for services, it may result in litigation against the Department.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

UNM would be required to administer these funds. Given the legal obligation of the Corrections Department to provide care for incarcerated individuals and the other issues noted above, careful

coordination of efforts would be required.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The Corrections Department notes that this bill does not specify whether or not it is meant to pay for “on-site” or “off-site” medical services. It also does not define “trauma treatment”.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

Have there been problems with the delivery of medical services to the inmates at Camino Nuevo via the existing Corrections Department contract with Wexford?

DKE/nt