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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/29/06

SPONSOR     Ruiz     LAST UPDATED                      HB   506  

SHORT TITLE     Family Assessment Domestic Violence Program     SB                                     

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ANALYST     McSherry    

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$60.0	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

House Bill 506 is a companion bill to Senate Bill 143.

Relates to \$175 thousand included in the LFC and executive recommendations for the General Appropriations Act.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Public Defender (PD)

#### SUMMARY

##### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 506, "Family Assessment Domestic Violence Program," appropriates \$60,000 from the general fund to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court for the purpose of expanding the court's Family Assessment Intervention Resources (FAIR) Domestic Violence Program.

#### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$60,000 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**

According to AOC, the FAIR program provides intervention for families with domestic violence based on the current domestic violence research and it is a collaborative program between the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District, UNM and community domestic violence service agencies.

AOC reports that FAIR focuses on partnerships in which the couple has a shared child and includes assessment of amenability to treatment, counseling, review hearings and sanctions. Assessment would continue for three years following program completion.

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

The court and AOC have not proposed performance indicators for this program; however, tracking of recidivism of participants, graduation rates and numbers of participants would be in line with tracking used for other programs of a similar nature.

The courts have not specified how the expansion of this program will contribute to increased performance for the FAIR program; it is not clear if the current program has reached its capacity or rather if it is not fully functional at its current level of funding.

AOC asserts that by reducing case filings the FAIR program will increase overall court efficiency and improve the court's backlog of cases.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Increasing the number, and size of, specialized programs increases the administrative workload in a court.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

House Bill 506 is a companion bill to Senate Bill 143 and relates to House Bill 492 which would appropriate \$422 thousand to the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court for its Domestic Violence Repeat Offender Program and House Bill 55 which increases penalties for domestic violence, and Senate Bill 393 which increases penalties for battery on a household member.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

Both the LFC and executive recommendation include \$175 thousand which was appropriated to the court in FY05. It is not clear exactly what the additional \$60 thousand is proposed to fund.

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court Family Assessment and Intervention Resources program would not be funded with an additional \$60 thousand dollars from the general fund. It is not clear programmatic consequences would result.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

1. How many participants does the FAIR program currently have?
2. What types of indicators are being used to determine the effectiveness of this program?
3. What would the proposed \$60 thousand be used for?
4. Is the current FAIR program filled to capacity?
5. Would the proposed \$60 thousand fund any additional FTE for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District?
6. What is the role of UNM, and the community domestic violence service programs within the FAIR program?
7. Has the current FAIR program contributed to reduced case filings?

EM/mt