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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

	ORIGINAL DATE 02/06/06		
SPONSOR Sandoval	LAST UPDATED _____	HB 544	_____
	RESTORE INDEPENDENT LIVING		
SHORT TITLE PROGRAMS		SB	_____
		ANALYST Weber	

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$136.4	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 480, HB 599, SB 355
 Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 544 appropriates \$136.4 thousand from the general fund to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Public education Department for the purpose of restoring independent living programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$136.4 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY07 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Independent living is a non-medical model of services that enables people with disabilities to achieve the highest level of self-sufficiency and control over their own lives. Centers for Independent Living in New Mexico have a potential client base of approximately 300,000 adults. 25% of adults surveyed in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Surveys of 1998-2000 identified themselves as having disabilities (Department of Health Office of Disability and

Health “Disability in New Mexico Report, 2001”).

The DVR annual report notes independent living services are provided by centers for independent living in Santa Fe, Las Cruces, Farmington and Roswell and offices in Alamogordo, Las Vegas, Gallup and Socorro. Ninety-five percent of the state’s population lives in the service area of the Centers for Independent Living.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

Consideration should be given to defining the word “restore” in the bill. These services currently exist and have for some years.

MW/nt