

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2-1-06

SPONSOR Irwin LAST UPDATED _____ HB 636

SHORT TITLE 6th Judicial District Juvenile Justice SB _____

ANALYST Dearing

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$340.0*	Recurring	General Fund
	*Please See Narrative		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 636 appropriates \$340,000 from the general fund to the 6th Judicial District for the support of the juvenile justice continuum.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$340,000 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.

Beginning in 1997, the Sixth Judicial District implemented a comprehensive strategy called the Juvenile Justice Continuum of Services in order to reduce its severe problem with juvenile crime.

*Prior to FY06, this program was funded only at the federal level, and, as such, the Administrative Office of the courts had requested a base-expansion of \$225,000 in fiscal year 2007 for the 6th Judicial District Court for the Juvenile Justice Continuum. The Legislative Finance Committee supported base-expansion of \$225,000 for this same period. According to the Administrative Office of the Courts' recent analysis, \$213,750 of the cost of this program was appropriated in

fiscal year 2006 as a recurring appropriation and is now included in the court's base budget. Thus, according to the Courts' analysis, the actual appropriation needed to fully fund this program is \$160,000.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The *Continuum of Services* is a comprehensive strategy that helps a community to develop programs in juvenile justice ranging from the most restrictive to the least restrictive, from punitive to preventive. The major phases are:

- Detention (local detainment and commitments to state facilities)
- Intervention (probation, community service, electronic monitoring, Teen Court, et cetera)
- Prevention (DWI Councils, Teen Outreach Program, Safe Schools Initiative, et cetera)
- Positive youth development (mentorship, sports, after-school programs, et cetera)

The program funding covers contractual services and other program related costs. This appropriation will allow this program to continue.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Reduction in juvenile offenses is the basis for the estimated \$18.5 million cost savings. During the same six-year period, the Juvenile Probation and Parole Department reported the following statistics:

- 61% reduction in property offense
- 38% reduction in offenses against persons
- 62% reduction in repeated offenders
- 63% reduction in total delinquent offenses
- 56% reduction in petitions filed
- 85% reduction in commitments to state facilities.

This funding will give the 6th *Judicial District Juvenile Justice Continuum of Services* resources to continue gathering the data necessary to calculate and report cost savings to the state.

ALTERNATIVES

An in-kind appropriation for this program, however in the amount of \$160,000.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

Is this program still receiving federal funds?

PD/mt