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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Picraux ORIGINAL DATE 2-2-06 HB HJM 43
LAST UPDATED _____ SB _____
SHORT TITLE Increase Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness SB _____
ANALYST Collard

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY06	FY07	FY08	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total	N/A	\$80.7	N/A	\$80.7	Non- Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 463

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Human Services Department (HSD)

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Joint Memorial

HJM 43 requests DOH, HSD, CYFD and PED to recognize the issues of fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) and to endorse the viewing of the video Gary and the Angles to increase FAS awareness and to work with state and private entities to help prevent FAS. These departments would report to the Health and Human Services Committee by November 1, 2006 about their progress in preventing FAS, by promoting this film.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

While the joint memorial does not include an appropriation, HSD indicates it would be required to report on progress to the LFC by November 30, 2006; this could require 1 FTE at a cost of \$80 thousand. CYFD notes there will be an unknown fiscal impact, presumably to be shared across the participating agencies, to comply with the provisions to promote and facilitate viewing of the film Gary and the Angels. PED indicates it would be responsible for directing staff to facilitate the viewing of the film in educational facilities and review the film to determine the age-appropriateness of the film. PED estimates an additional cost of an educational administrator's time at \$662.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DOH indicates FAS is a condition characterized by abnormal facial features, growth retardation, and central nervous system problems. One of every 1,000 children born in New Mexico has FAS and the incidence of alcohol related birth defects in New Mexico is 1 in 100 births (http://casaa.unm.edu/PreventFAS/NM_Data.htm). FAS is the only 100 percent completely preventable birth defect. If a mother does not drink alcohol during pregnancy, there is no possibility of her baby acquiring the disabilities caused by alcohol consumption.

The DOH Office of Disability and Health has funded an FAS prevention project at the University of New Mexico (UNM) Center for Alcohol Substance Abuse and Addictions (CASAA) since 1996. In 2003 the project, in conjunction with the UNM School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics produced a 30 minute FAS awareness and prevention video I Don't Want My Daughter to Hate Me. The project has distributed more than 10,000 copies of the video in New Mexico and the country and has bought airtime on network and cable channels in New Mexico.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

HSD indicates it supports efforts to bring health education to its members and would encourage the contracted MCOs to do so as well; however, the provision on reporting progress could be difficult to achieve and would consume significant personnel resources to make happen.

CYFD states it will absorb the administrative costs associated with implementing this memorial.

RELATIONSHIP

House Joint Memorial 43 relates to Senate Bill 463 which appropriates \$50 thousand from the general fund to the DOH to promote FAS awareness through the video Gary and the Angels.

KBC/mt