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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/30/06

SPONSOR Taylor LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Family Assessment Domestic Violence Program SB 143

ANALYST McSherry

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$203.4	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Senate Bill 143 is related to House Bill 506 “Family Assessment Domestic Violence Program.”

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)

Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Office of the Attorney General (AG)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 143, “Family Assessment Domestic Violence Program,” appropriates \$203,400 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. The bill appropriates \$51,776 for salary and benefits for a hearing officer, \$45,896 for salary and benefits for a court psychologist, \$49,228 for salary and benefits for a judicial specialist, \$54,000 for contractual costs for student interns, and \$2,500 for assessment instruments.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$203,400 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**

\$175 thousand of the proposed appropriation is included in the LFC and executive base recommendations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court. The current HAFC recommendation for the agency includes the \$175 in the base. The amount appropriated in this bill which is not included in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District's base is \$57.7 thousand.

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**

Senate Bill 143 is a companion bill to House Bill 506 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 \$203.4 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. Is the current FAIR program filled to capacity?
4. What is the role of UNM, and the community domestic violence service programs within the FAIR program?
5. Has the current FAIR program contributed to reduced case filings?
6. By how many participants would the proposed expansion increase the size of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District's FAIR program?

EM/yr