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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/01/06

SPONSOR Robinson LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE SUPPORT FOR INDIAN COUNSELING SB 435

ANALYST Weber

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Senate Bill 435 appropriates \$50 thousand from the general fund to Indian Affairs Department for the purpose of supporting Indian counseling.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50 thousand 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

The Indian Affairs Department inquires about the specific intent of the legislation to ensure the proper services are supported:

The bill language does not indicate what type of counseling to be provided. What types of counseling services can be supported (e.g., substance abuse, mental health, teen suicide, etc.)? Further, there is no indication if the counseling is to be performed by para-professionals or professionals. Finally, it is unclear as to which Indian population(s) to be served. Are the

counseling services for Indian elders, adults, adolescents, children, etc.?

The intent of the appropriation can be made clearer by defining what is meant by “Indian counseling.”

MW/mt