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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/12/07

SPONSOR Garcia, MP LAST UPDATED _____ HB 630

SHORT TITLE Hispanic Male Health Testing SB _____

ANALYST Geisler

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$25.0	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates: House Bill 629

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 630 would appropriate \$25,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Health (DOH) for fiscal year 2008 for the provision of health screenings for Hispanic men in the South Valley eighteen years and older who have no health care coverage. Services include: prostate cancer screening, and high blood pressure, glaucoma and diabetes testing. Services would be provided through a public health clinic. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance funds at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the general fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation included in this bill is not part of the Department's FY08 operating budget request.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The South Valley of Albuquerque is an area of high need. Unemployment is 8.19% as compared to 5.74% in Bernalillo County as a whole. Poverty is higher at 46.5% in the South Valley as compared to 30.4% in Bernalillo County as a whole. (US Census, 2000 and Bernalillo County

Map Book <http://www.health.state.nm.us/pdf/ABQ-Health-and-Social-Indicator-Map-Book-v6a-e.pdf>) Access to health care for adults is often tied to employment and even those adults who are working often are working at jobs in smaller businesses that do not offer health insurance.

Diabetes testing of the general population is not a recommended procedure according to the American Diabetes. Instead, initial screening for risk factors might be a better approach. Similarly, prostate cancer screening is currently only recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US Preventive Services Task Force, and a number of other professional organizations for average risk men ages 50 and older following clinician counseling of the risks and benefits of such screening.

Once a health issue is identified, there are few options for treatment of uninsured adults with acute or chronic care needs. In general, it is best that clinical screening take place in a person's "medical home" where ongoing primary care can be delivered.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

The local public health offices do not possess equipment that would allow for glaucoma screening, and these services may need to be contracted with local providers. Contracts may need to be put in place for services that the local public health office is unable to provide.

The DOH Comprehensive Cancer Control Program does contract or provide for prostate cancer screenings. However, practitioners would need training in the provision of prostate cancer screening should this task fall to the local public health office.

RELATIONSHIP

HB 630 relates to HB 629, which would appropriate \$25,000 for services for females in Albuquerque's South Valley.