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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/9/07

SPONSOR Chasey LAST UPDATED _____ HB 966

SHORT TITLE Families of Homicide Victim College Tuition SB _____

ANALYST Peery-Galon

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
NA	\$600.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY07	FY08	FY09	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total	NFI				Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Crime Victims Reparation Commission (CVRC)

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 966 appropriates \$600.0 from the general fund to the Crime Victims Reparation Fund for the purpose funding in accordance with the provisions of the Crime Victims Reparation Act.

House Bill 966 give the Crime Victims Reparation Commission the ability to order payment of tuition to post-secondary educational institutions on behalf of children, adult children and spouses of homicide victims pursuant to guidelines established by the commission. The proposed legislation adds language pertaining to no award of reparation shall be in excess of \$50,000 per family of a homicide victim.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$600.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

CVRC states the appropriation is sufficient for the change in coverage costs. CVRC notes without the appropriation the commission would not have enough funds to pay for this change.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Crime Victims Reparation Commission was created by Section 31-22-4 NMSA 1978 to provide a mechanism for compensating crime victims or their dependents for death or bodily injury resulting from violent crimes. Eligibility for reparation awards, limits on the award per victim, and required deductions for payments received from collateral sources are specified by law. The commission board consists of five gubernatorial appointees and operates under the Crime Victims Reparation Act. In fiscal year 2006, the commission processed 258 claims for child sexual abuse and 30 for physical abuse with a payout of \$174,700; 53 drunken driving claims were processed, of which 25 resulted in deaths, with a payout of \$74,400; and 251 domestic violence claims, of which 18 were homicides, with a payout of \$372,700.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CVRC states the proposed legislation will add to the work of the commission because of the tuition assistance. CVRC reports the extent of the extra administrative work is unknown.

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