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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Hall ORIGINAL DATE 02/09/07 LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HM 6  
SHORT TITLE UNM National Center For Health Policy SB \_\_\_\_\_  
ANALYST Moser

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
Health Policy Commission

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 6 supports the creation of the National Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) joined with the University of New Mexico (UNM) to establish a national center for health policy at UNM. Started with an initial commitment of \$18.5 million, the interdisciplinary center will have dedicated leadership and staffing as well as its own physical location on UNM's main campus. Through its students and programs, the Center will contribute to the development and implementation of national health policies by increasing the number of Hispanic and Native American scholars who can engage in the debate as leaders.

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The Health Policy Commission indicates that the creation of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico comes at a time when the nation's ethnic and racial diversity is rapidly increasing, and will be guided by the principle that development of health policy should be grounded in the experience of the people it represents. Currently, few Hispanics and Native Americans are bringing their perspectives to health policy discussions. Minority groups disproportionately face barriers to good health. Many lack access to quality health care, are faced with unhealthy living environments, and suffer from poor health, disability, and earlier death. The Center will be a physical, educational, and cultural home for promising minority leaders and others, providing them with the training, research, and opportunities they need to inform discussions and debates about health policy.

GM/mt