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HOUSE BILL 224

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

Antonio "Moe" Maestas

FOR THE COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO CORRECTIONS; CREATING THE OPIATE ADDICTION
TREATMENT FOR INMATES PILOT PROJECT; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. OPIATE ADDICTION TREATMENT FOR INMATES PILOT
PROJECT.--

A. The "opiate addiction treatment for inmates
pilot project" is created as a two-year pilot project that
provides opiate addiction treatment, utilizing
buprenorphine/naloxone, to fifty women with a history of heroin
or other opiate addiction who are incarcerated and soon to be
released on parole from the New Mexico women's correctional
facility in Grants and the Camino Nuevo correctional center.
The project shall include standard therapeutic community and
addiction counseling.

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1 B. Opiate addiction treatment shall be administered
2 to fifty women with a history of heroin or other opiate
3 addiction who:

- 4 (1) are within two months of release;
5 (2) will be monitored on parole or probation
6 for at least one year following release;
7 (3) are not pregnant; and
8 (4) after being fully informed of
9 buprenorphine/naloxone and its effects and of the requirements
10 and procedures for participation in the project, agree to
11 participate in the pilot project for two years.

12 C. Priority shall be given to those women who are
13 closest to being released from incarceration and to those
14 planning to parole to a community within sixty miles of a
15 physician certified to prescribe buprenorphine/naloxone
16 therapy.

17 D. Opiate addiction treatment with
18 buprenorphine/naloxone shall be made available to each
19 participant in the pilot project for two years. The impact of
20 the project on all participants shall be evaluated for two
21 years.

22 E. The department of health shall collaborate with
23 the corrections department to administer and evaluate the pilot
24 project and to contract for the services of buprenorphine/
25 naloxone-certified physicians and case managers to evaluate and

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1 treat the women participants.

2 F. The department of health in collaboration with
3 the corrections department shall evaluate the success of women
4 who participate in the pilot project as compared to women with
5 a history of opiate addiction who are not treated with
6 buprenorphine/naloxone. The evaluation shall include findings
7 about:

- 8 (1) recidivism, relapse and cost savings; and
9 (2) the changes in physical and mental health
10 status, employment status, parenting and other quality of life
11 indicators during the project period.

12 G. The department of health and corrections
13 department shall each report independently to the appropriate
14 interim legislative committee on the evaluations, treatments
15 and outcomes of the pilot project participants by December 1,
16 2009 and again by December 1, 2010.

17 H. The pilot project shall run from July 1, 2008
18 through June 30, 2010.

19 Section 2. APPROPRIATION.--Two hundred fifty thousand
20 dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
21 department of health for expenditure in fiscal years 2009 and
22 2010 for the opiate addiction treatment for inmates pilot
23 project. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at
24 the end of fiscal year 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

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