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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Gutierrez **ORIGINAL DATE** 02/04/11
LAST UPDATED 03/02/11 **HB** 116/aHJC
SHORT TITLE NM Poison & Drug Info Center **SB** _____
ANALYST Esquibel

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

HB 116 relates to the \$1.3 million appropriation in the General Appropriation Act for the UNM Health Sciences Center Poison Control Center.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
 University of New Mexico
 Department of Health
 Higher Education Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HJC Amendment

The House Judiciary Committee amendments to HB116 provide for the following:

- The New Mexico poison and drug information center shall “maintain certification” (e.g., not “be certified”) by the American Association of Poison Control Centers;
- The New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center is not exempt from temporary budget hiring freezes at the University of New Mexico.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 116 (HB116) proposes to create the New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center (NMPDIC) as a part of the University of New Mexico’s Health Sciences Center (NMHSC). The center would be certified by the American Association of Poison Control Centers to provide expert telephone assistance to the residents of New Mexico for emergency management and treatment of poisonings, chemical exposures, drug overdoses and exposure to chemical weapons 24 hours a day. It would provide medical information to medical and non-

medical providers. The center would be responsible for follow-up to families and other individuals to ensure adequate care is provided. It would work to improve the health of the residents of New Mexico. The center would also provide training to health care professionals in the field of clinical toxicology, and preventing poisonings through public education.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HB116 contains no appropriation. However, the Higher Education Department indicates the General Appropriation Act contains a line item appropriation to the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center for the Poison Control Center. The General Fund Post-Special Session appropriation for FY11 was \$1,363,300. It is unclear how passage of HB116 and creation of the NMPDIC in statute would affect future appropriations to the NMPDIC in the General Appropriation Act.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Department of Health indicates UNM has provided these services to the State of New Mexico since July 1977, without the service being in statute. During that time, the number of calls the center received has grown from 12,000 in 1977 to over 40,000 in 2010. The center was incorporated into the University of New Mexico and has been compliant with all professional standards as set by the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC). In 1994, it became incorporated into the University of New Mexico's Health Sciences Center, thereby allowing the center to share faculty between the College of Pharmacy and the School of Medicine's Department of Emergency Medicine.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

HED indicates since the NMPDIC already exists as a part of the UNM Health Sciences Center College of Pharmacy, there are no changes and/or administrative implications for NMHED or UNM HSC beyond those already in place. According to NMPDIC administration, passage of HB116 would not change the current organizational structure of the Center. However, placing the mission of the NMPDIC into statute would allow the Legislature to affect the mission of the NMPDIC or influence its administration by amending statute at a later date.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The UNMHSC would continue to provide this service to the citizens of New Mexico via the NMPDIC without the Center being in statute.

RAE/mew:svb