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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Cook **ORIGINAL DATE** 03/11/11
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** _____
SHORT TITLE Anesthesiologist Assistant Supervision **SB** 537
ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Medical Board (MB)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 537 amends the Medical Practice Act, §61-6-10.7, as it applies to Anesthesiologist Assistant students, so as to remove the current requirement that if the student is providing anesthesia, the student shall be supervised on a one-to-one basis by an anesthesiologist who is continuously present in the operating room.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

During the ten years in which the Anesthesiologist Assistant Program has been functioning in the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center Hospital, the requirement for a supervising anesthesiologist to be continuously present in the operating room has proven to be an unwieldy management problem. Supervision has been provided successfully and without problems by the anesthesiologist being continuously present in the suite of operating rooms in which the anesthesiologist student is also working under that close supervision.

Current law requires that an anesthesiologist student be supervised on a one-to-one basis.

House Bill 537– Page 2

The MB states that the requirement to provide one-on-one continuous supervision in a single operating room rather than the operating suite perpetuates an impractical and inefficient form of supervision that is atypical and not required of other professionals in training like anesthesiology residents in advanced stages of training.

DW/bym