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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/25/11

SPONSOR King LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 556

SHORT TITLE Children's Trust Fund Purpose & Board SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Peery-Galon

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Response Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)  
Department of Health (DOH)

No Response Received From

Governor's Office

### SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 556 amends the Children's Trust Fund Act by clarifying the purpose of the Act, increasing the board membership from nine to 13, and clarifying the Act's expenditure provisions. The proposed legislation broadens the focus to include projects and programs that advocate for and educate about the prevention of child abuse and neglect in communities around New Mexico. The proposed legislation enables the board to fund projects and programs beyond one funding cycle in order to sustain strong community projects and programs. In regards to the children's trust fund, the proposed legislation calls for all of the funds received from federal funds or grants, donations, or bequests from private sources are to be deemed income invested from the fund. The change enables the trust fund to receive funds from outside sources. Also, the proposed legislation provides for federal matching funds, grants and donations, or bequests from private sources to be distributed by the board or council as specified by the granting entity or donor.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

CYFD noted the changes from the proposed legislation will increase the visibility of the Children's Trust Fund throughout New Mexico by encouraging a greater focus on education about the prevention of child abuse and neglect. An increased number of board members will strengthen the trust fund by providing greater input from residents living within the state, and help to encourage private donations by increased knowledge and visibility in more communities.

DOH reported the proposed legislation would amend the Children's Trust Fund Act to include programs that advocate for and educate about the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Currently, the law provides for development of children's projects, but not programs. Under the proposed legislation children's programs that meet the requirements for funding provided in Section 24-19-10 NMSA 1978 could be funded from the income received from investment of the fund. Federal matching funds or grants and donations or bequests from private sources would be treated as income received from investment of the fund. The proposed legislation would also increase the number of members of the Children's Trust Board from nine to 13 members, no more than seven of whom would be from the same political party.

DOH noted the purpose of the Children's Trust Fund initiative is to increase access to innovative services that strengthen families and prevent child abuse. The Children's Trust Fund is partially funded through the sale of a special license plate. Funding for the program comes from the general fund, license plate fees, marriage license fees and trust fund interest income.

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

CYFD has the following performance measures which pertain to child abuse and neglect:

- Percent of children who are not the subject of substantiated maltreatment while in foster care. The FY10 actual for the performance measure was 99.67 percent.
- Percent of children who are not the subject of substantiated maltreatment within six months of a prior determination of substantiated maltreatment. The FY10 actual for the performance measure was 91.4 percent.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

House Bill 556 is a duplication of Senate Bill 534.

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