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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Garcia, M.J. **ORIGINAL DATE** 01/19/11
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE Child Abuse Public Awareness Campaign **SB** 79

ANALYST Peery-Galon

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 79 appropriates \$150.0 from the general to the Children, Youth and Families Department for the purpose of establishing a child abuse public awareness campaign.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of 2012 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Research shows a correlation between increased rates of child maltreatment and economic downturns, when at-risk families are the most vulnerable to the stresses resulting from decreases in income, job loss, and housing issues. CYFD reported that New Mexico has witnessed an increase in child maltreatment reports and an increase in the number of reports of fatal or serious incidents of child maltreatment involving children under the age of five. CYFD's Protective Services Program saw an increase of 2,606 accepted reports of child abuse between FY09 and FY10. The department has been working on a #SAFE cell phone number and a new toll free

number (1-855-333-SAFE) to access the child abuse reporting hotline. CYFD is also working to develop a media campaign to promote the release of these numbers and increase public awareness of the seriousness of child abuse.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

CYFD has the following performance measures regarding child maltreatment: 1) percent of children who are not the subject of substantiated maltreatment within six months of a prior determination of substantiated maltreatment, and 2) percent of children who are not the subject of substantiated maltreatment while in foster care.

CYFD noted the proposed legislation's long-term impact to performance measures on child maltreatment would ultimately be positive; however, the short-term impact may possibly show an increase in the number of child maltreatment reports.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CYFD noted any additional administrative costs would be absorbed by the agency.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bill 79 has a relationship with Senate Bill 76 that calls for a temporary provision to study child abuse problems.

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