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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE
LAST UPDATED 01/25/12 **HB** _____

SPONSOR Lopez

SHORT TITLE Prevent Births among Adolescents **SB** 167

ANALYST Esquibel

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY12	FY13		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health

Children, Youth and Families Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 167 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Health (DOH) to implement statewide comprehensive programming to prevent births among adolescents.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY13 shall revert to the general fund.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Department of Health indicates New Mexico is among the states with highest teen birth rates in the nation. In 2009, the most recent year data are available, NM was the highest in the nation for birth rates to teens 15-17 and second highest in the nation for birth rates to teens 15-19 year olds. The birth rate for NM teens ages 15-17 has declined, but it is still nearly 30% higher than

the national rate. From 1998 through 2010 the NM teen birth rate for 15-17 year olds decreased by 41%. In 2009, more than 20% of teen births in NM were repeat births. States with the highest percentage of repeat teen births are also the states with the highest rates of teen childbearing (Child Trends, 2011). Teen mothers are more likely to have a repeat teen birth if: they were younger at first sexual intercourse and first birth, they have lower cognitive ability/lower educational expectations, they retrospectively classified their first birth as intended and they are living with a husband/partner (Klerman, L.V. Another chance: Preventing additional births to teen mothers, 2004).

According to the 2009 New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey 48% of NM high school students reported they had sexual intercourse in their lifetime. Sexual activity increases with advancing grade level. For instance 31.2% of 9th graders reported they had sex compared to 64.1% of 12th graders. No condom use at last sexual intercourse was reported by 42.5% of sexually active students and 32.6% of students reported having sexual intercourse within the last 3 months.

An updated analysis from The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy shows that teen childbearing in NM cost taxpayers at least \$118 million in 2008. Nationally, teen childbearing costs taxpayers at least \$10.9 billion each year. Most of the public sector costs of teen childbearing are associated with negative consequences for the children of teen mothers, during both their childhood and their young adult years. In NM in 2008, taxpayer costs associated with children born to teen mothers included: \$35 million for public health care (Medicaid and CHIP); \$8 million for child welfare; and for children who have reached adolescence or young adulthood, \$17 million for increased rates of incarceration and \$38 million in lost tax revenue due to decreased earnings and spending (The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, 2011).

Currently in DOH Family Planning Program (FPP) has 13 educational contracts implementing 2 evidence-based programs (the Teen Outreach Program and Cuídate!) at 31 sites in 10 counties.

According to the DOH 2011 Racial and Ethnic Disparities Report Card, the birth rate for Hispanic females age 15-17 (43.6) was more than four times that of Asians (10.4) and nearly four times that of Whites (11.2). Culturally appropriate evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs are needed which target Hispanic teens.

RAE/lj