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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/18/14

SPONSOR Trujillo, CH **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HM** 98

SHORT TITLE Nurse-To-Patient Ratio Survey **SB** _____

ANALYST Chabot

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY14	FY15	FY16	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		TBD could be considerable				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 83, SB 151

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC File

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

House Memorial 98 requests the Department of Health (DOH) conduct surveys and consult with professional organizations in the development of surveys on nurse-to-patient ratios at hospitals in New Mexico. It is further requested this information be posted on the department web page so it is accessible with an interactive feature so actual staffing levels and conditions at the hospitals are available to the public. Reports are to be provided to the Legislative Finance and Health and Human Services committees.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The agency may have significant costs in conducting the survey, keeping data current and developing the website. The House Appropriation and Finance Committee substitute for House Bill 2 (the General Appropriation Act) includes \$100 thousand for this purpose.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Nurse-to-patient ratios reflect the minimum number of nurses needed to provide adequate care for patients and ensure their safety. An annual review of these ratios will allow comparison with national standards to ensure New Mexicans receive the same quality of care as patients in other

states.

The memorial does not identify when the reports are due to the legislative committees.

GAC/sec