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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Trujillo, L ORIGINAL DATE 1/25/2019  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 215

SHORT TITLE Low-Income, At-Risk Children Dance Program SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Chenier

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to an appropriation in the General Appropriation Act that includes \$400 thousand for youth dance programs.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Response Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 215 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Health (DOH) to provide low-income at-risk children statewide with access to a best-practice, character-building youth dance program, in partnership with school districts statewide.

### 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 FY21 shall revert to the general fund.

The bill would more than double the current \$400 thousand general fund appropriation contained in DOH's Public Health Division budget.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DOH provided the following analysis:

Childhood and youth obesity are a significant public health issue. Although obesity rates increased through 2002 for all adolescents, more recently, obesity is declining among youth from higher income families while continuing to increase among youth from lower income families. These results underscore the need to target public health interventions to socioeconomically disadvantaged (i.e., low-income) youth (<https://www.pnas.org/content/early/2014/01/08/1321355110>).

Adolescents, who live in low-income households have greater difficulty being physically active compared with higher-income people due to various social and environmental barriers such as long distances to sports facilities, poor transportation services, poor neighborhood and traffic conditions, a lack of parks and recreational facilities, air pollution, a lack of spare time, bad health, and a lack of exposure to social support related to exercise. Even though these barriers affect other income groups, the impact is much greater on low-income communities ([www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4273050/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4273050/)).

In 2017, more than one in four NM kindergarten students (27.9 percent) were overweight or obese. Prevalence rates were significantly higher among third graders; over one in three (34.2 percent) were overweight or obese. Third grade students measured in 2017 were sampled from roughly the same general birth group as the 2014 kindergarten sample. Over 11 percent of kindergarten students were obese in 2014 and by 2017, 19.9 percent of students in this birth group (now third graders) were obese. This significant (72 percent) upward shift in obesity prevalence between kindergarten and third grade highlights the continued need to address and prevent excessive weight gain and support healthy eating and active living behaviors at an early age (<https://nmhealth.org/data/view/chronic/2113/>).

Given that obesity is linked to the development of numerous chronic diseases and the evidence that overweight and obese children are less likely to grow into economically and socially successful adults, this is a significant burden for low-income children. Assuming income equality will not go away, public health interventions may be more successful if they follow lifestyle choices such as family physical activity and healthy diets (<http://childofourtimeblog.org.uk/2015/12/why-poorer-children-are-at-greater-risk-of-obesity/>).

## ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

State Agencies must adhere to the State Procurement Code, therefore, a Request for Proposals (RFP) process would need to be completed to distribute these funds.

EC/gb/sb