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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Pinto ORIGINAL DATE 1/29/19
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE San Juan County Emergency Phone Trunk Line SB 366
ANALYST Armstrong

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY20	FY21		
\$150.0		Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 366 (SB366) appropriates \$150 thousand from the general fund in FY20 to the Indian Affairs Department to conduct a feasibility study to design and plan a telephone trunk line to provide emergency services to the elderly, the young, and those needing medical care in San Juan County.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY20 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SB366 appropriates \$150 thousand from the general fund in FY20 to IAD to conduct a feasibility study to design and plan a telephone trunk line to provide emergency services to the elderly, the young and those needing medical care in San Juan County. There is no proposition as to where the trunk line should be installed; who should own or maintain the trunk line; nor who will use the feasibility study to carry out planning and design.

IAD provided the following analysis:

According to the Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NNTRC) website (<https://www.nntrc.org/911.aspx>), the Navajo Nation has statutory authority over the delivery of 911 services within Navajo Nation. Of particular note, “Regulating Rural Addressing and/or location information standards on the Navajo Nation” is needing NN Legislative Authority, and establishing and maintaining the NNTRC E911 (enhanced 911) Resource Center has no funding. Telephone service is sometimes inconsistently reliable in remote parts of the reservation.

According to the San Juan County Communications Authority (SJCCA) website (<http://www.sjcounty911.net/index.cfm/about-sjcca/who-we-dispatch-for/>), San Juan County provides Public Safety Answering Point and dispatch services for all city and county law enforcement agencies in San Juan County, except for the Navajo Nation and New Mexico State Police.

In 2018, the Ojo Encino Chapter of the Navajo Nation and located within San Juan County applied and received capital funding through the Indian Affairs Department to develop a rural addressing system. This work is currently in progress.

The requested feasibility study would look at the patchwork of emergency notification systems currently operating, or not operating, in the San Juan county area of the Navajo Nation. The IAD through the network of state agency tribal liaisons, could involve other state agencies, such as the Department of Information Technology (DoIT), to assess the overall feasibility of developing 911 services across the Navajo Nation in San Juan County.

JA/al