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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Tallman ORIGINAL DATE 1/31/19
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Importance of Mediation For Elder Population SM 3

ANALYST Chilton

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial:

Senate Memorial 3 would transmit the Senate's recognition of the importance of mediation to help address senior citizens' issues with legal matters to the New Mexico Elder Mediation Network.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

From the organization's website, www.nmelder.org:

The New Mexico Elder Mediation Network provides skilled family facilitation and conflict resolution for Elders and their families, their caretakers and other associations. Elders face unique challenges often involving loss, such as friends and family, financial independence, identity, physical space, health management. Sometimes, elders and their families have difficulty talking about these issues. Often the major transitions that seniors face can cause painful conflict for the seniors and their adult children. There may be disagreements about safety of the parents in their home, care giving responsibilities, wills and estate, the sale of the family home and the parent's ongoing driving.

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A trained, objective third party can facilitate families reaching mutually satisfying decisions. In some instances, family roles and unresolved disagreements create serious roadblocks. A mediator skilled in conflict resolution can be of assistance in unraveling these patterns, and reaching agreements, leading to a more supportive environment for family members. Elders and their caregivers may develop misunderstandings which without the assistance of a neutral 3rd party can diminish the necessary trust required by the care-giving, care-receiving relationship. Elder mediation is an efficient and sensitive solution to the complicated elder care decision making process.

LAC/gb