

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Gonzales ORIGINAL DATE 1/30/06  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 347  
SHORT TITLE Taos County Alcohol & Substance Abuse Program SB \_\_\_\_\_  
ANALYST Lewis

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	82.6	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Health Policy Commission (HPC)

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 347 appropriates \$82,600 from the general fund to the Department of Health to contract for alcohol and substance abuse treatment services in Talpa in Taos county, to include curriculum materials and professional and administrative services.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$82,600 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Department of Health (DOH), Talpa is a residential community of approximately 800 people in Taos County, located about five miles south of the town of Taos. DOH notes that 43 percent of all fatal motor vehicle crashes in Taos County involved alcohol (Office of New Mexico Vital Records and Health Statistics, 2003).

According to the Health Policy Commission (HPC), Taos County is one of the five counties in New Mexico that is a federally-designated Mental Health Professional Shortage Area. In 2002 Taos County ranked ninth in New Mexico in alcohol and drug related death rates.

HB347 is not part of the DOH executive budget request.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

DOH notes that all behavioral health resources are currently being administered through a single behavioral health entity (Value Options). The resources would be allocated through this contract.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) notes that untreated or inadequately treated substance abusers are likely at some point to run afoul of the law. This occurrence increases the risk to the community and perpetuates chronic re-entry into the criminal justice system.

ML/mt