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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/8/16
SPONSOR Padilla **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE Call-in Phone Assistance Feasibility Study **SB** 286

ANALYST Malone

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	\$25.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY16	FY17	FY18	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$25.0	\$0.0	\$25.0	Nonrecurring	DFA Special Appropriations

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth, and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 286 appropriates \$25 thousand to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration (LGD of DFA) to fund a one-year pilot project in Bernalillo County's South Valley to coordinate information referrals across telephonic help lines to effectively guide families with young children to an array of state and local health and human services information and resources. The bill calls for LGD to contract with a nonprofit entity with at least five years' experience in developing and implementing plans and programs to serve young children and families. By November 1, 2017, the contractor shall report its findings and recommendations to the governor, the Health and Human Services Committee and the Bernalillo County Board of County Commissioners.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The \$25 thousand appropriation contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY17 will revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

CYFD notes that the agency has an agreement with the University of New Mexico's Continuing Education Department for child care resource and referral (CCR&R) services. This resource and referral service is available to all of New Mexico's families and has been in place since the late 1990's. The key objectives in the agreement for NM Kids CCR&R system are as follows:

- Ensure referral staff are knowledgeable about child growth and development; elements of quality child care and best practices in the field of early care and education; are culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate; able to understand different early childhood service options, and are able to provide information about these topics through telephone consultation and by email;
- Provide consumer education regarding child care and referrals for early childhood services utilizing an established and comprehensive referral system that can be accessed through parental web search and through personal phone consultation.

Additionally, since mid-year 2015 CYFD has been planning a community outreach, service recruitment and public resource education initiative called "Pull Together". The first phase of Pull Together will be implemented in the spring of 2016. One dimension of Pull Together will create a centralized location for resources for those who need help and those who want to help.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Each year new special appropriations are added for the LGD to administer. The agency is concerned that LGD will struggle to meet its statutory duties and overall mission if its resources are directed towards numerous small special projects.

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