F I S C A L   I M P A C T   R E P O R T

	ORIGINAL DATE 1/30/17		
SPONSOR Pinto	**LAST UPDATED**	**HB**	
SHORT TITLE San Juan County Phone Trunk Line		**SB**	164
		ANALYST	Boerner

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY17	**FY18**		
	$150.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY17	**FY18**	**FY19**	**3 Year Total Cost**	**Recurring or Nonrecurring**	**Fund Affected**
Total		None Noted	None Noted	None Noted		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION
LFC Files

Responses Received From
Indian Affairs Department (IAD)
Department of Information Technology (DoIT)
Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 164 appropriates $150 thousand dollars from the general fund 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 non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2018 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DoIT notes that at minimum IAD should consult with DoIT regarding a telephone trunk line since DoIT already has the technology in place. Most importantly given the state's limited resources, DoIT may be able to provide IAD with a feasibility plan and services within DoIT's existing resources.

Finally, DoIT notes IAD needs to consider the existing DFA/E911 architecture into a feasibility plan for a phone system supporting emergency calls that access various first responder services. DFA/E911 services can provide emergency services without duplication given the proper infrastructure is in place or needs to be built.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Both IAD and DOH mention there is uncertainty regarding what is meant by "telephone trunk line" and that further clarification is needed to understand what type of service is desired. For example, IAD indicated it was unclear regarding the following:

- Upon completion of the feasibility study, the bill does not specify the recipients of the study, namely who the IAD should be accountable to and work with in assessing the strengths and weaknesses of any proposed telephone trunk line venture;

- The bill does not propose where a telephone trunk line should be installed, who should own and maintain it or any further details such as would contribute to the substance of the feasibility study and render it meaningful;

- The bill does not propose any performance measures, whereby the effectiveness or veracity of the feasibility study's findings on design and planning of the telephone trunk line can be evaluated;

- The bill does not indicate who will use the feasibility study to carry out planning and design, or whether the department is tasked with planning and design; and,

- The bill does not address construction, specifically, whether such construction will occur in the foreseeable future or whether further appropriations or department resources would be required for any post-feasibility study efforts towards a telephone truck line venture. In short, it is assumed this appropriation constitutes phase one of an indeterminate, larger effort.

ALTERNATIVES

In its analysis DoIT notes it may be able to provide IAD with a feasibility plan and services within existing resources.

CB/jle/al