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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/14/17

SPONSOR Ortiz y Pino LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Statewide HPV Registry SB 331

ANALYST Chilton

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY17	FY18		
	\$1,353.4	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNM HSC)

Higher Education Department (HED)

### SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 331 would appropriate \$1,353,352 to the regents of the University of New Mexico to provide funding to the university's statewide human papillomavirus (HPV) registry. The registry has been largely funded by the federal government, but funding cuts are anticipated for the coming fiscal year, leaving the registry unable to maintain its current work force or to expand it as it deems necessary.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1,353,352 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2018 shall revert to the general fund. Although it is hoped that the federal funding reduction will be restored in fiscal year 2019, it is assumed at this point that the HPV registry will continue to need funding from the state.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Human papillomaviruses are ubiquitous; most sexually active people will contract infection with at least one of the 200 plus types during their lifetimes. The majority of these infections do not cause symptoms, and the majority do not persist. However, genital warts are the consequences of several of the types and are symptomatic, while some of the other types can cause cancer. The cancer-causing serotypes do not usually cause symptoms at the time of infection, but may remain dormant in the body for many years before causing pre-cancerous and then cancerous changes. Cancers caused by HPV include cervical, vulvar, and vaginal cancer in women, anal and throat cancer in both sexes, and penile cancer in males. In the United States, about 12,200 deaths occur just from cervical cancer each year; in New Mexico, the average is 75 deaths per year from cervical cancer. Pharyngeal (throat) cancer is a growing problem throughout the country; males are especially seeing an increase.

Prior to the licensure of the first vaccine against HPV, Gardasil®, in 2006, the only means of preventing disease and death from this cancer-causing virus was screening and prompt treatment. The effectiveness of cervical screening through the Papanicolaou (Pap) smear has been well documented. Testing of the then-existing two HPV vaccines began in the early years of this century, with a large proportion of that work done at the University of New Mexico, through its Department of Pathology. The currently available vaccine, Gardasil9, protects against the two types of HPV that cause most genital warts, and seven of the most common cancer-causing types. It is estimated that upward of 80 percent of cervical cancers could be prevented through full use of this vaccine, but Pap smear screening is recommended whether a woman is immunized or not to be certain that all of the cervical cancer is detected. It is probable that a similar percentage of other cancers caused by HPV types is also prevented by the vaccine, but lack of screening tests for those other types of cancer makes the determination difficult.

In addition to testing the vaccines, UNM set up a registry to document the number of women with HPV-associated cervical cancer, cataloguing the incidence of positive Pap tests. In addition, the registry began tracking HPV immunization in the state. The resulting database, the only one of its kind in the United States, has tracked about 98 percent of New Mexico women, and is a resource unduplicated elsewhere. The registry has been highly useful in attempts ongoing throughout the United States to improve the immunization rates for HPV. At least eight grants are currently active in New Mexico to improve HPV immunization rates, often using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's tagline, "If there were a vaccine against cancer, wouldn't you want it for your child?"

UNM HSC states that the annual budget of the HPV Registry is about \$4 million. The program would lose three full-time staff if the federal funding cut were not replaced by state funding, and the program would be unable to hire two additional staff to perform needed computational and statistical functions.. UNM HSC states that personnel, equipment and travel that would be funded by the state appropriation are necessary to assure that federal funding will continue to be made available to the program. UNM adduces the economic benefits of the HPV Registry as having two highly beneficial effects in New Mexico: 1) prevention of cancer, and 2) providing well-paid jobs and "leadership in cancer prevention for our state and union."

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The regents of the University of New Mexico would be responsible for administering the state funding.

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

The HPV Registry would have to make do without the additional state funding and would likely have to decrease the scope of its activities. It worries that inadequate funding may impair its ability to seek ongoing federal and pharmaceutical company funding.

LAC/jle