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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Garcia, MP ORIGINAL DATE 1/25/20
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 73
SHORT TITLE Injectable Opioid Treatment Program Study SB _____
ANALYST Gelay

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY20	FY21		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

University of New Mexico Health Sciences (UNM)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 73 appropriates \$150 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of UNM for the purpose of a demonstration project to assess the feasibility and acceptability of an injectable opioid treatment program in UNM's addiction and substance abuse program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY22 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Overdose death rates in New Mexico are significantly higher than the national average. While New Mexico has done a great deal to combat the rise of opioid overdose deaths, opioid overdose deaths, and opioid dependence, rates have not been significantly reduced. Data indicates that existing treatments [buprenorphine, methadone and naltrexone] are difficult to access and may not help about 30 percent of the population. Other countries, including Canada and England, have utilized a variety of injectable pharmacotherapies - including diacetylmorphine

[pharmaceutical grade heroin] and hydromorphone - to treat this population with encouraging outcomes. To date, pharmacotherapies and their efficacy have not been evaluated in the United States.

Over a two-year period, this demonstration project would evaluate the safety, feasibility, and possibly, the efficacy of injectable hydromorphone treatment for patients with opioid-use disorders, who have not benefitted from existing treatment modalities. This appropriation could fund the first year of a possible multi-year research project that would allow the department of psychiatric addictions to obtain necessary regulatory approvals, provide community education, develop a full protocol that would meet all regulatory requirements, as well as to collaborate with, and learn from, other places that already are doing injectable pharmacotherapy.

This initiative would be housed in, and aligns with, the mission of UNM Health System's Addiction and Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) which specializes in providing diverse proven substance abuse and mental health treatment, including specialized services for women. ASAP provides services to adults and adolescents with a primary substance abuse diagnosis and to individuals who have a substance use disorder along with other mental health issues.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to UNM HSC, this project would support approximately 3.2 FTE with some of the FTE supporting two providers, a clinical coordinator, a nurse and additional staff support.

JGG/rl