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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Maestas/Matthews/Ely /Garratt ORIGINAL DATE 2/5/2020 HM 30
 LAST UPDATED _____ SB _____
 SHORT TITLE Family Success Lab Pilot Project SB _____
 ANALYST Chilton

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY20	FY21	FY22	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI		NFI	Nonrecurring	

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Corrections Department (NMCD)
 Human Services Department (HSD)
 Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD)
 Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD)
 Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

House Memorial 30, Family Success Lab Pilot Program, proposes the Department of Health study the factors that would be involved in setting up a pilot program to use data on families requiring multiple referrals to agencies or departments to develop policies that would help those families.

DOH would be asked to identify

- Relevant administrative data,
- Problems and solutions relevant to sharing and securing data,
- Data integration efforts that might be used in setting up a family success lab,
- Options for research into multi-system families and children,
- Possible funding for activities of the family success lab.

DOH would be asked to present its findings to the governor and a legislative interim committee by November 1, 2020.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no appropriation in the memorial. CYFD, ECECD, DOH and NMCD indicate those departments would not need additional funding to participate in the study of feasibility of the family success lab.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Jennifer Ramo, executive director of New Mexico Appleseed, in an *Albuquerque Journal* article in October 2019 (<https://www.abqjournal.com/1383290/data-will-help-state-best-address-poverty.html>) credits Nobel Prize winner Esther Duflo, Ph.D., with the statement, “Our goal is to make sure that the fight against poverty is based on scientific evidence. ... It starts from the idea that often the poor are reduced to caricatures and often, even people who try to help them do not actually understand what are the deep roots of the problem.” The proposed Family Resource Lab would address the gaps in knowledge surrounding poverty and other factors leading to New Mexico’s low rankings for child well-being, as evidenced by the state’s position in 50th place in the 2020 annual Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count rankings (<https://www.nmvoices.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/NM-KC-profile-2019.pdf>). Among the 16 factors assessed in the report, New Mexico is better than the national average in only one (ability to afford housing), the same in one (children having health insurance), and worse in 14, notably including childhood poverty. New Mexico ranks second among all U. S. states in the prevalence of childhood poverty, at 26 percent; poverty has long been known to be highly associated with poor educational and social outcomes

As noted by DOH, “New Mexico Appleseed estimates that 16,000 families involved with multiple social services systems cost \$900 million in federal and state dollars [each year].”

DOH continues:

HM30 is related to House Bill 173 JCS (HB173JCS), “Child & Family Databank Act” which died in the 2019 Regular Session. However, SB536 allocated funds to DOH to link various datasets associated with children’s health and wellbeing. As a result, the Epidemiology and Response Division (ERD) in DOH created and just staffed a Data Linkage Epidemiologist position in the recently created Community and Health Systems Epidemiology Bureau (CHSEB). This position is responsible for linking DOH data with numerous data sources from across state agencies including PED, HSD, CYFD, and Corrections Department. The position will develop strategies for securely linking these data sources and identifying public health uses for the linked data. The position will communicate with state and external stakeholders who would benefit from the analyses of the data linked data. These analyses will contribute to the development of evidence-based policy. The intent of the memorial is consistent with the developing data linkage infrastructure at DOH.

CYFD and ECECD state they already share data with DOH. NMCD also pledges collaborative efforts, presumably largely about families with one or more incarcerated members.

RELATIONSHIP

House Memorial 30 – Page 3

HM30 is related to HB173 from the 2019 legislative session.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The term “multi-system families,” which presumably refers to families requiring services from multiple agencies or departments, is not defined in the memorial.

LAC/al/sb