

LFC Requester:

Kelly Klundt

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO
AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov
 (Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 1/27/2025 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: SB102 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Senator William Soules **Agency Name and Code Number:** ECECD
Person Writing Analysis: Sara Mickelson
Short Title: Study Universal Basic Income & Pregnant **Phone:** 505-795-1786 **Email:** sara.mickelson@eecd.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
NFI	NFI		
NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: Senate Bill 102 (SB102) appropriates 80 million dollars from the general fund to the Department of Health for the purpose of establishing a two-year pilot program to provide universal basic income to pregnant persons and to evaluate the financial impact of that universal basic income on pregnant people.

The program would be available to families with a pregnancy and an annual income at or below one hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level. Participants in the test group would receive \$1,500.00 per month from pregnancy through the first year of life of the infant. Participants in the test group of participants would also be required to receive home visitation services, would fill out surveys and research forms throughout the duration of the program, and attend prenatal care appointments at a prescribed frequency. Participants not complying with home visiting, surveys and prenatal care appointments would be placed in the control group.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns, or June 20, 2025, if enacted. If enacted, the program would begin on July 1, 2025, and end on June 30, 2027.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Note: major assumptions underlying fiscal impact should be documented.

Note: if additional operating budget impact is estimated, assumptions and calculations should be reported in this section.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill assigns the responsibility for enrollment of the family to a department of health home visiting provider or a provider selected by department of health, and the responsibility for completion of home visitation to the Department of Health. Currently, New Mexico's home visiting system is overseen and implemented by the Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD). The Families First program, in which nurses provide case management support to pregnant people and families with young children within the Medicaid program, is also implemented by ECECD. Adjusting the bill to allow home visiting through ECECD would allow a more streamlined experience for families.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Because the bill assigns implementation responsibility to the DOH it may be more difficult to coordinate services with all early childhood programs, including the existing home visiting programs administered by ECECD, early intervention services provided by ECECD's Family

Infant Toddler (FIT) Program, and infant-toddler child care.

By requiring that participants receive home visiting services from employees of the Department of Health (or an entity approved by the Department of Health), this bill creates a potential conflict with N.M.S.A 1978, § 9-29-8 (B)(1), which requires that ECECD “coordinate and align an early childhood education and care system to include...home visitation.”

TECHNICAL ISSUES

SB102 states that participants who do not comply with the requirements of home visitation, completing surveys, and attending prenatal care appointments are placed in the control group. This implies that only the test group of participants would receive the \$1,500.00 per month income, but it is not stated explicitly. The bill does not clarify how the participants would be sorted into the control group and the test group, or what would happen if their income changed during the course of the project. Also, while prenatal care appointments are required, well child checks are not required even though the program continues for the first year of the child’s life.

Additionally, the timing of this pilot project as written presents some issues for participant eligibility. SB102 mandates that DOH distribute universal basic income to participants in the amount of \$1,500.00 per month “through the duration of the program.” SB102 specifies that the program “shall begin on July 1, 2025, and shall end on June 30, 2027.” As written, SB102 requires that participants receive payment for two (2) years. Additionally, because of the requirement that the program end on June 30, 2027, participants beginning the program in 2026 or early 2027 may not receive the full benefit of the basic income for the duration of their pregnancy and for the full first year of their child’s life. This conflicts with the definition of “universal basic income pilot program” under Section 1(B), which seeks to evaluate the financial impact of universal basic income “from pregnancy through the first year of life of an infant.”

Additionally, there is a question as to how the control group will be managed. It is unclear if any prohibitions will be imposed on the control group and if those prohibitions might cause any harm to the participants.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

Assign responsibility jointly between DOH and ECECD for the implementation of the program.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If SB102 is not enacted, the universal basic income pilot program will not be implemented.

AMENDMENTS

None.