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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR:	Lopez	DATE TYPED:	02-04-00	HB	
SHORT TITLE:	Support of At-Risk Families			SB	130
				ANALYST:	Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY00	FY01	FY00	FY01		
	\$ 1,500.0			Recurring	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health (DOH)

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Human Services Department (HSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 130 appropriates \$1,500.0 from the general fund to CYFD to establish a statewide program for low-income, at-risk families to include case management, health and nutrition assistance, education, substance abuse prevention, and employment services for pregnant women.

Significant Issues

The DOH Families First Program currently provides similar services to those proposed in SB130. Based on experience with Families First, DOH estimates that services for 6,000 women could be provided with this appropriation.

Low income, at-risk pregnant women require enhanced access to services and resources to improve levels of first trimester prenatal care and improved birth outcomes and health status of their infants.

CYFD currently provides some of these services for different population. The bill, if enacted, would expand the eligible population for these services.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 130 appropriates \$1,500.0 from the general fund and is recurring.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Minimal impact to agencies.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

According to the Department of Health, "the term prenatal means that services would be provided for pregnant women only. It is recommended that the term be changed to "perinatal"

which would allow services to be provided after the birth of the child."

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Department of Health indicates that by appropriating funds through SB130 to the Children, Youth and Families Department, a duplication of the Families FIRST Program would take place. State funds for a similar or identical programs would be more efficiently utilized by expanding program services through Families FIRST. Similar services provided by the DOH are provided at the current Medicaid Saluad! rate of \$250.00. Funds to be appropriated by SB130 allow for only \$61.00 per woman.

The legislation corresponds to the goals and objectives in the Department of Health Strategic Plan.

The CYFD indicates that through the community-based services contracts, the department currently provides children's behavioral health and domestic violence services throughout the state to low-income, at risk families. The funding in SB130 would expand the target-population to include pregnant women.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

- Should the appropriation be made to the Department of Health, Families FIRST program?

RMS/gm