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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Watchman DATE TYPED: 02/06/01 HB 345
 SHORT TITLE: Spiritual Counseling for Incarcerated Adults SB _____
 ANALYST: Trujillo

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
	\$ 85.0			Recurring	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates HB 294
 Relates to HB 361

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
 Corrections Department (CD)
 Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

HB345 appropriates \$85,000 from the general fund to CD for expenditure in FY 2002 to contract to provide culturally competent counselors and advisors to provide spiritual counseling pursuant to the Native American Counseling Act to adults incarcerated in state correctional facilities. Any unexpended balance remaining at the end of FY 2002 reverts to the General Fund.

Significant Issues

CD reports the department sometimes encounters difficulty in obtaining sufficient and adequate volunteers to provide spiritual counseling to Native Americans. HB345 would provide CD with funding such that the Department would not need to rely solely upon volunteers to provide Native Americans with spiritual counseling.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

CD is transitioning into performance-based budgeting. HB345 does not propose additional performance measures.

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CD reports HB345 could improve the performance of the department's prison programs if the spiritual counseling resulted in an improvement in the morale of Native American inmates, resulted in a decrease in misconduct by Native American inmates, or resulted in a lower recidivism rate among this group of inmates.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$85.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY02 shall revert to the general Fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to CD, HB345 will result in a slight increase in the administrative burden upon the Department's procurement personnel who will be required to use the standard procurement process to obtain the required contractors.

RELATIONSHIP

CYFD reports the bill relates to HB361 - (Culturally Competent Spiritual Counselors for Juveniles), an equivalent bill for incarcerated adults.

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