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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Coll DATE TYPED: 01/24/01 HB HJM 1  
 SHORT TITLE: License Sign Language Interpreters SB \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANALYST: Chabot

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
			NFI		

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files  
 New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons (CDHH)

No Response Received  
 New Mexico School for the Deaf  
 Regulation and Licencing Department

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

A joint memorial resolving that a study be conducted by the New Mexico School of the Deaf and CDHH of the feasibility of developing standards for licensure of sign language interpreters in the state of New Mexico. The results of this study and proposed legislation, if any, are to be presented to the first session of the forty-sixty legislature.

#### Significant Issues

According to CDHH, several states are passing licensing legislation to elevate the interpreting field to that of a profession. Licensure will ensure that competent and ethical sign language interpreting is available in New Mexico. CDHH will conduct meetings and hearings to develop recommended standards for the licensing process.

GAC/njw