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F I S C A L I M P A C T R E P O R T



SPONSOR: Begaye DATE TYPED: 01/22/02 HB 24

SHORT TITLE: Statewide Rural Health Care SB _____

ANALYST: Esquibel

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
\$5,850.0				Recurring	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)_____

Relates to Appropriation in The General Appropriation Act of approximately \$11 million in general fund for rural primary health care services.

Duplicates SB22

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From
 Department of Health (DOH)
 Health Policy Commission (HPC)

No Response

Human Services Department (HSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

HB24 appropriates \$5,850.0 in FY02 and FY03 from the general fund to DOH for the purpose of contracting with rural primary health care clinics statewide for the following: to serve 18,000 new clients at new clinic locations statewide (\$1,650.0); for expanded prescription drug dispensation capacity at various clinics statewide (\$1,200.0); to support medical and dental staff (\$2,000.0); and to maintain current service levels and retain non-clinical staff (\$1,000.0).

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$5,850.0 for FY02 and FY03 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY03 shall revert to the general fund.

DUPLICATION

HB24 duplicates SB22.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

DOH reports the bill does not provide a definition of rural or primary health care clinic, nor does it refer to the ongoing Rural Primary Health Care Act (RPHCA) program, which also supports primary health care clinics. The relationship between rural primary health care clinics, as intended by the bill, and community-based primary care clinics as targeted under RPHCA, is unclear.

DOH suggests the following language on page 1, line 18, "... and 2003 to contract with primary care centers as defined in the Rural Primary Health Care Act, 1978 NMSA 24-1A-1."

RAE/njw