

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Youngberg DATE TYPED 2/02/05 HB 594

SHORT TITLE Bernalillo Metro Assessment & Treatment SB _____

ANALYST Hanika-Ortiz

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$1,400.0			Recurring	General Fund

Duplicates SB 323

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

NM Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA)

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

HB 594 appropriates \$1.4 million from the general fund to the DOH for the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Assessment and Treatment facility for a new transitional housing facility (\$400 thousand), and medical services (\$1 million).

Significant Issues

The DOH reports HB 594 represents Phase 3 in the Bernalillo County effort to implement a continuum of services for individuals detained for public intoxication (Phase 1 is detoxification; Phase 2 is 28-day inpatient treatment). The DOH further report Phase 3 funds will allow the addition of medical personnel to divert intoxicated individuals from emergency rooms.

The previously known Charter Hospital is now under ownership of Bernalillo County as of June 30, 2004. The program within the facility undergoing renovation is being referred to as the

MATS (Metropolitan Assessment Treatment System) Program. The building will be the future home of the public detox program and will house a 30-day inpatient treatment program. It may also house the city-funded ACT team and perhaps be the community's crisis/triage facility to accommodate the needs of individuals with co-occurring disorders. Policies are currently being created by members of the Public Detox work group. Upon completion of the policies, the licensing procedure will follow.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

HB 594 supports Program Area 5 Behavioral Health Services, of the DOH Strategic Plan; Strategic Direction: Increase access and choice for behavioral health services.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1.4 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 shall revert to the general fund.

The Executive General Fund recommendation for DOH includes \$1 million to increase substance abuse programs statewide.

The appropriation requested was not in the agencies budget request reviewed by the LFC in 2004.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

HB 594 would require the DOH to allocate funds to the Bernalillo County Assessment and Treatment Services Facility, administer the funds and oversee the programming to insure accountability. After the first year (FY 06), the Behavioral Health Collaborative could integrate the \$1.4 million dollar funding and play a role in the administration.

The AOD does not believe that HB 594 has a fiscal or an administrative impact on the courts.

DUPLICATION

Duplicates SB 323.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Albuquerque has a need for a local, accessible, and comprehensive continuum of substance abuse services. According to the NM DOH "Alcohol-Related Hospitalization Charges, New Mexico, 2002", Bernalillo County incurred over \$22 million in alcohol-related hospitalization costs.

- In 2001, 54.2% of those in alcohol treatment located in New Mexico were male.
- 26.8% of the individuals in drug abuse treatment residing in New Mexico during 2001 were female.
- The largest age group admitted into to a alcohol abuse treatment during 2001 in New Mexico were between the ages of 36-40 (17.2%).

- The second largest age group attending alcohol abuse treatment in New Mexico during 2001 were between the ages of 31-35 (15.5%).

The MFA believes this appropriation would address only a small percentage of the affected community due to the great need for transitional living facilities in Bernalillo county.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL?

The DOH reports the transitional housing and medical services at the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Assessment and Treatment Facility would not be funded.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

What efforts are being made to coordinate services and seek assistance from hospitals as they will benefit from the services this facility provides?

Will individuals with drug impairments be allowed to seek transitional housing or treatment services at the new facility?

AHO/lg:sb