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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Swisstack DATE TYPED 2/20/05 HB HJM 61

SHORT TITLE Albuquerque Court Consolidation Study SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST McSherry

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
NFI	NFI	NFI	Indeterminate	Recurring	General Fund

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Response Received From:

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)  
Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

### SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 61 requests a study be conducted by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to determine the merits of consolidating Children and Family Courts into a single, shared space. The Memorial further proposes that AOC report recommendations regarding: sites for consolidation, expenses associated with the recommended consolidation, and resources involved in recommended consolidation to an “appropriate” legislative interim committee by “its” October 2005 meeting.

Significant Issues

According to the memorial, the children’s and family courts in Albuquerque occupy separate facilities despite having closely related functions, and overlapping served populations. The bill further asserts that the consolidation of staff, security and records could save public funds.

The memorial does not specify that the AOC should base its report on the findings of the proposed study, nor what the study should consider as merits.

The memorial does not specify to which interim legislative committee AOC should report.

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

The intent of the memorial seems to be to investigate the potential improve the performance of both the children's and family courts in Albuquerque.

The Memorial proposes that AOC conduct the study which would increase the responsibilities of the agency and may cause agency performance in other duties to decrease while the study is performed.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no appropriation suggested in House Joint Memorial 61. It is not clear if resources would be used or needed by AOC to conduct the proposed study.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The Memorial proposes AOC conduct a study. The agency will likely have an administrative impact as a result of conducting the proposed study, unless the staff, conducting the study have been assigned to other temporary duties which would cease.

It is possible that as a result of the proposed study contained in the Memorial that administrative savings could be achieved in the children's and family court.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

It is assumed that the report AOC would provide would be based on the findings of the proposed report, however it is not certain based upon the proposed Memorial.

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL?**

Should House Joint Memorial 61 not be enacted, AOC may not study the implications of consolidating the courts and may not report to an interim legislative committee recommendations regarding a consolidation

EM/yr