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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Beam DATE TYPED 03/15/05 HB HM 51

SHORT TITLE Native American Counseling Programs SB _____

ANALYST Weber

APPROPRIATION

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

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Human Services Department (HSD)

Aging and Long Term Care Department (ALTCD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HM 51

House Memorial 51 (HM 51) would require the Human Services Department; the Department of Health, Long Term Services Division and the Aging and Long Term Services Department to do a study on how the five year federal demonstration initiative entitled “Money Follows the Person – Rebalancing Initiative” could impact the current services for individuals with disabilities in New Mexico. The initiative would allow persons who are institutionalized in a nursing home or an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded to have a choice to live in the community and have the money being expended on their institutional care follow them to provide for their community based care. Although no money is attached to HM 51, there is a potential to receive federal funding from the federal demonstration grant in future years if the findings indicate that our long term care system could accommodate an initiative of this sort. The study findings would need to be reported to the interim legislative health and human services committee no later than November 1, 2005.

Significant Issues

The Department of Health indicates the issues addressed by carrying out the study mandated in this memorial are two-fold. The first issue is how does the state most appropriately provide services and support for individuals with disabilities, as mandated by *Olmstead v. Zimring*, and how does the state continue to be involved in best practices in working with individuals with disabilities. The second issue is how does the state best attract and utilize federal funding such that New Mexico is able to fund individuals to live in the community, assuming that is the individual's choice, rather than funding institutional care. The findings may affect the overall vision of how to provide community based services and self-directed services in the future. As planning for self-directed services is currently underway at the Department of Health, results from this study will provide information to make important policy decisions.

DOH continues that they are working with both the Human Services Division and the Aging and Long Term Services Department on drafting a concept paper to develop a plan to utilize a self-directed waiver to provide care to individuals with disabilities. The "Money Follows the Person Initiative" is philosophically related to the Self-Directed Service Model. Although the Aging and Long-Term Services Department has received some funding from this grouping of federal initiatives, House Memorial 51 would enable all three departments (Human Services, Department of Health, Aging and Long-Term Services) to work together to identify a common language and a common understanding of the money following the person.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HSD notes no additional funding would be required for one year since states can be fully reimbursed by the federal government for 1 year. However, the federal demonstration project is for five years. It is not clear if 100% federal reimbursement is available for beyond the first year.

MW/yr