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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lopez DATE TYPED 2/25/2005 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Satellite Early Childhood Training Programs SB 459

ANALYST Dunbar

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
\$1,500.0				Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 229; HB 337; HB 508; HB 554; SB 253; SB 254; SB 360; SB 458

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Health Policy Commission (HPC)

NM Public Education Department (NMPED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 459 appropriates \$1.5 million from the general fund to CYFD for expenditure in FY05 and FY06 to support satellite early childhood training and professional development programs to reach rural communities more efficiently. The bill declares an emergency.

#### Significant Issues.

PED notes that rural communities do not have easy access to professional development and technical assistance for early childhood programs. Many of these communities also lack adequate available local resources to provide these services. High-quality technical assistance and professional development are necessary to meet state and national program and staff licensing requirements.

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

By increasing the availability of training and technical assistance to early childhood education programs in rural areas, the number of child care programs prepared to participate in the AIM HIGH quality initiative is expected to increase. The number of eligible programs participating in AIM HIGH is a CYFD performance measure.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$1.5 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.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

CYFD currently contracts with Training and Technical Assistance Programs in Early Care and Education, Family Support, School-Age Care. The bill would expand the availability of services provided through the existing training system by establishing rural area satellite offices.

## **RELATIONSHIP**

SB 459 relates to the following:

- SB458 short titled “CYFD Early Childhood Aim High Program”
- HB508 short titled “CYFD Early Childhood Programs”
- HB337 short titled “Pre-Kindergarten Act”
- HB379 short titled “Expand Family Development Program”
- SB253 short titled “Statewide Family Development Program Training”
- SB124 short titled “Autistic Student School Personnel Development”
- SB360 short titled “Pre-Kindergarten Act”

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The HPC indicates that “Satellite system” could be further specified to define what kinds of professional development training and early childhood programs it might include. For instance, it would be good to clarify if these could be on-site training, direct consultation, orientations, online courses, etc... Also, it would be good to specify any requirements the trainings or programs must meet to be funded by the appropriation.

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

The bill would support the PRE-K initiative by building a knowledgeable early childhood workforce in rural areas of the State..

Findings and recommendations from the “Quality of Child Care for ALL: Statewide Task Force” (presented to CYFD July 2004):

- It is estimated that 15 – 20% of early childhood population is at high risk for developing a disability or being delayed. Trained child-care workers may be able to help identify

these at-risk children early on so that support services can begin sooner.

- Integrating children with disabilities into early childhood care settings can often depend on a “well-prepared and well-trained staff”.
- Designing a “hybrid model” (based on components of Head Start, Early Intervention, AIM High, and Project Jericho) was recommended to address quality of child-care. Some particular areas of concern that would be addressed include the lacking of training and compensation for professionals in child-care service.
- The task force recommends funding for local training and technical support for child-care providers. TTAPs, FIT and PED programs do not meet the current needs for training and technical assistance.

**BD/lg**