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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Foley DATE TYPED 10/06/05 HB 7

SHORT TITLE Energy Assistance-150-300% FPL SB _____

ANALYST Weber

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$20,000.0			Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Human Services Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 7 appropriates \$20 million from the GENERAL FUND to The Human Services Department for the purpose of assisting New Mexico residents with incomes between 150 percent and 300 percent of the federal poverty level with residential heating or energy utilities costs.

Significant Issues

There are approximately 190,000 households in the 150-300 percent of federal poverty level. This converts to approximately \$23,500 to \$47,000 for a family of three. If all 190,000 received an equal benefit from the \$20 million it would be \$105 each. The bill does not contain any regulatory requirement or note how eligibility will be determined. While it may be assumed eligibility will be conducted by the Income Support Division since the appropriation is made to HSD consideration should be given to defining this definitively.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$20 million contained in this bill is a NON-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

This may create an administrative burden on Income Support Division offices and consideration should be given to allow some portion of the appropriation for such expenses.

MW/yr