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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1-30-06

SPONSOR Gonzales LAST UPDATED _____ HB 291

SHORT TITLE TAOS COUNTY HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES SB _____

ANALYST Hadwiger

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

Human Services Department (HSD)

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 291 appropriates \$50 thousand from the general fund to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) in FY07 for a community-based organization to provide services for the homeless.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY07 would revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DFA noted that homeless youth include those who leave the foster care system at age 18, as well as those who have completed care at inpatient treatment centers and need to obtain the life skills to reintegrate into their community and those who have been released from incarceration and

need to be reintegrated into the community. Fifteen percent of youth in Taos county are not employed nor in the labor force. Eighty-five youth are currently on supervised probation with the juvenile probation office. DFA stated that a transitional living center will assist the homeless, abused and neglected youth to obtain the independent living skills needed to become responsible citizens of their community. A transitional living center provides the youth with positive alternatives to help them re-assess their lives and futures.

The Human Services Department indicated the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority traditionally disburses any funds provided by the State Legislature to agencies statewide that provide shelter and meals service to homeless persons. The Executive and LFC budgets contain \$750 thousand for homeless shelters and \$200 thousand for homeless meals throughout New Mexico for FY 2007. The funding in HB 291 is specific to Taos County youth only.

The Children, Youth and Families Department noted the bill does not specify the type of services that are to be provided to the target populations, or what the proposed services are intended to achieve. HSD indicated the bill does not provide a definition of “Abused and Neglected Youth”.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Local Government Division of DFA will distribute the appropriation to Taos county in the form of a joint powers agreement or memorandum of understanding.

DH/yr