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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/21/07

SPONSOR Youngberg LAST UPDATED _____ HB 1285

SHORT TITLE Alcohol Sever Permits Time Limit SB _____

ANALYST C. Sanchez

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)
 Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court (BCMC)
 Department of Public Safety (DPS)
 Department of Corrections (DC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 1285 shortens the time that alcohol server permits will be valid from five years to three years from the date the permit was issued.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be additional expense to program presenters and servers because of the requirement for more frequent programs.

According to the District Attorneys and the Corrections Department, it is difficult to determine any fiscal impact that this bill might have on the state. By issuing the permits every three years instead of every five years, perhaps the alcohol server's more frequent attendance of alcohol server education programs will better enable them not to serve alcohol to intoxicated individuals. This could perhaps help prevent individuals from committing crimes while intoxicated. Perhaps

the bill could minimally reduce the Corrections Department's inmate population and probation/parole caseloads and the District Attorneys and Public Defender's caseloads.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Passage of the bill will help protect the public from drunk drivers. Additional programs will give servers more up-to-date information and expertise regarding how much alcohol individuals can consume before they become a danger to the public. The additional training for the server also stresses the importance of their duty and responsibility to quit serving alcohol to people before they become intoxicated.

The proposed bill would require an amendment and/or rewriting of current liquor regulations and related bills.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

On page 1, line 19, after the word "completion" insert a comma and the words "passes a test approved by the director".

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The current law does not require testing. A server may be issued a server permit after obtaining a certificate of completion of the program.

The fact that the server has sat through a program does not mean that the server has learned anything or that the server is serious about the responsibility to refuse service to those who are becoming intoxicated. Servers should be tested to determine their competency to be employed in an occupation with such important duties to all New Mexicans.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo

CS/csd