

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/23/07

SPONSOR Altamirano LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Making an Appropriation for Youth Mentoring in Unserved and Underserved Counties SB 129

ANALYST Propst

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$2,000.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 129 makes an Appropriation for Youth Mentoring Programs in Unserved and Underserved Counties.

SB 129 appropriates \$2,000.0 in General Fund to the Local Government Division of The Department of Finance and Administration for the purpose of expanding youth mentoring programs to unserved and underserved counties in the state.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$2,000,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY08 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Local Government Division of DFA has identified the non-profit organization, Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Mexico, as a likely candidate for receiving the appropriation. However, the

Division plans on following the procurement code by issuing an RFP or developing a sole source determination.

As reported on the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern New Mexico website (www.bbbsnorthernnm.org), a recent study conducted by a national research firm (Public/Private Ventures (PP/V)) examined the impact of the program on youth and found that when compared to their peers, Little Brothers and Little Sisters who met with their Big Brothers or Sisters for at least one year were:

- 46% less likely to start using drugs;
- 27% less likely to start drinking;
- 33% less likely to act violently;
- 52% less likely to skip a day of school, and earned higher grades.

The outcome, almost across the board, was significantly higher for minority youth. The study reported that minority boys are 67% less likely to start using drugs, and minority girls are 72% less likely to start using drugs as a result of youth mentoring programs.

In 2006 BBBS matched 3,100 at-risk children with adult mentors. If they are awarded this funding, they plan to match 5,100 or more children in fiscal year 2008. Additionally, they plan to expand the reach of the program to previously unserved and underserved areas, by reaching children in every county in New Mexico.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The funds will be administered through the Local Government Division, which has the staff and knowledge to fund and monitor this project.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

An additional \$2,000.0 will not be available for youth mentoring programs and it is possible that at risk children in remote and/or unserved and underserved communities will not have an opportunity to be matched with an adult mentor, and will be less likely to finish school and more likely to start using drugs and alcohol.

WEP/nt