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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/5/07

SPONSOR Jennings LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Cancer Patient Navigation Program SB 357

ANALYST Geisler

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$250.0	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY07	FY08	FY09	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$45.0	\$45.0	\$90.0	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to: SB 382

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Health Policy Commission (HPC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 357 would appropriate \$250,000 from the general fund to the Department of Health (DOH) to be spent in FY08 through FY10 to provide a cancer patient navigation program for education about, and management of the disease. Initially, services would be for breast and cervical cancer patients identified through the DOH Breast and Cervical Cancer (BCC) Program, and expanded to other types of cancer as the program developed. Services would be provided through an existing cancer service agency. Any unexpended or unencumbered funds remaining at the end of FY 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

DOH notes that the funding proposed in this bill is not contained in the executive budget recommendation. Also, passage of SB 357 would require the addition of a 0.5 FTE to the DOH Chronic Disease Bureau Cancer Section to support the program.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DOH provides that patient navigation approaches have demonstrated potential to guide and support patients who need assistance obtaining timely, quality cancer care. Several organizations in New Mexico (e.g., People Living Through Cancer and St. Joseph's Breast Cancer Resource Center) already provide similar services.

On average, the DOH BCC Program serves 10,000 women each year. Nearly 70 women per year are diagnosed with breast cancer, and 5 are diagnosed with cervical cancer through the BCC Program. However, the American Cancer Society estimates that in NM 1,080 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 70 women with cervical cancer in 2007. SB 357 would expand services to all other cancer types as the program develops. It is estimated that there will be 8,030 new cases of cancer diagnosed in New Mexico in 2007 (American Cancer Society, 2007), which would increase the number of potential participants for the proposed patient navigation program to over 8,000 per year.

HPC provided a list of community-based support services available in New Mexico:

- American Cancer Society – offers services in communities around the state, including some in rural areas.
- People Living through Cancer - a cancer survivor organization for peer support and education throughout the state.
- Prostate Cancer Support Association of New Mexico provides prostate cancer education/awareness for men throughout the state.
- The New Mexico/El Paso Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society provides some financial assistance and support services for patients with blood-related cancers and their families.

RELATIONSHIP

SB 357 relates to SB 382, which would appropriate \$50,000 from the general fund to be spent in FY08 by the Department of Health (DOH) to provide for comprehensive, community-based cancer patient support services including education, patient library services, one-to-one matching with cancer veterans, survivorship support groups, and an annual statewide survivorship conference.

GG/mt