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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/13/07

SPONSOR Lopez LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE EXPAND AT-HOME INFANT CARE PROGRAMS SB 668

ANALYST Lucero

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$360.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to: HB 232 “CYFD Child Care Programs” and SB92 “FAMILY, INFANT & TODDLER PROGRAMS”: Duplicates HB167 “EXPAND AT-HOME INFANT CARE”

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Senate Bill 668 appropriates three hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$360,000) from the general fund to Children, Youth and Families Department for the purpose of expanding at-home infant care programs. Half the funding is to be used to expand existing programs and the other half to establish and administer other pilot at-home infant care sites.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of three hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$360,000) contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2008 shall revert to the general fund.

The base Children Youth and Families Department budget contains fifty five thousand dollars (\$55,000) for at-home infant care.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The At Home Infant Child Care Program began in September of 2004 in Dona Ana County. The pilot program there continues with a current year budget of \$55,000 and serves 13 families.

Part of the requirements for families participating in the At Home Infant Child Care pilot program is to attend and complete a parenting class sponsored by New Mexico State University (NMSU) Families Strengthening Partnership. Initially this course was delivered by NMSU free of charge due to a federal grant that NMSU had attained. More recently the federal funds available to NMSU have expired, requiring NMSU to now charge for this course. Expenditures for this course must be applied to the At Home Infant Child Care budget, which means additional administrative dollars and less program service delivery dollars. Additionally, when first implemented families participating in the At Home Infant Child Care pilot were required to attend the 45-hour child car provider training course. Due to other program policy requirements, the capacity availability of the 45-hour provider course was and CYFD was forced to adjust the requirement that families complete this educational. This course continues to be offered to the At Home Infant Care families as voluntary instead of mandatory. If and when families choose to take advantage of this educational opportunity CYFD will be required to cover the cost of this course as well, again, meaning additional dollars expended administratively and less dollars available for service delivery. Because this course is not available in many geographic areas of New Mexico, it may be difficult to expand the program intact to other areas of the state.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CYFD states that if passed, the bill will have an administrative impact on children, youth and families department that the bill does not address.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to: House Bill 232 “CYFD Child Care Programs” and SB0092 “FAMILY, INFANT & TODDLER PROGRAMS”. Duplicates HB167

Relates to an appropriation in the General Appropriation Act. The base FY08 Children Youth and Families Department budget contains fifty five thousand dollars (\$55,000) for at-home infant care.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo.

DL/mt