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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/24/08

SPONSOR Maestas LAST UPDATED _____ HB 336

SHORT TITLE Bernalillo County Justice Conference SB _____

ANALYST Escudero

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$50.0	Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the DA (AODA)
 New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD)
 Attorney General Office (AGO)
 Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
 Public Defender Department (PDD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 336 appropriates \$50.0 from the general fund to the local government division of the Department of Finance and Administration for expenditure in fiscal year 2009 for Bernalillo County to host a justice conference that will bring together district attorneys, judges, jail administrators, attorneys, legislators, business leaders and media members to create solutions to improve the criminal justice system and make it more efficient.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50.0 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

As stated by AOC, the outcomes from this conference would determine the role of the court in regards to the criminal justice system within Bernalillo County. HB 336 does not clarify how the conference would be planned or who would develop the agenda.

As stated by the PDD, this bill could improve the overall operation of the criminal justice system and thus possibly decrease recidivism.

As stated by, NMCD, the bill does not invite prison administrators or NMCD employees (be they prison or probation/parole staff) to the justice conference. Also, while the bill might ultimately improve the criminal justice system (it is unclear just what needs to be improved), it is unlikely that the conference will result in any reduction in NMCD's prison population or probation/parole caseloads. The bill has no fiscal, administrative or other impact on NMCD.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS:

As stated by AOC, the courts are participating in performance-based budgeting. It is unknown if enactment of this bill would impact performance measures as they relate to judicial budgeting and/or performance.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS:

As stated by AOC, in addition, there will be an administrative impact on the courts as a result of scheduling Bernalillo County area judges' time to attend. It is unknown whether this would affect the Metropolitan Court, District Court or both courts.

PME/mt