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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/16/08

SPONSOR Cisneros LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE CYFD Foster Care Program & Outreach SB 46

ANALYST Lucero

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$260.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: The Executive recommendation for CYFD includes a \$100.0 appropriation to support the Heart Gallery program.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 46 appropriates Two hundred sixty thousand (\$260,000) from the General Fund to Children, Youth and Families for the heart gallery programs and outreach for children in foster care who are available for adoption.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of Two hundred sixty thousand (\$260,000) contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of 2006 shall revert to the general fund.

The Executive recommendation for CYFD includes a recurring \$100.0 appropriation to support the Heart Gallery program.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The Heart Gallery was founded in 2001 and has received widespread recognition. The Heart Gallery was established to partner with CYFD in support of the children in CYFD custody who need adoptive families as well as those who are aging out of the system or are at risk of doing so. The Heart Gallery has been named a “best practice” by the US Children’s Bureau, and has been featured on numerous national television programs and in the NY Times, People, Parade and other media. It has also become a model for over 100 similar programs in more than forty states. In 2007, Heart Gallery of America, a national non-profit, was launched in Santa Fe to support the work of Heart Gallery groups around the country.

At four Heart Gallery events held during FY07, sixteen children, including teens and two sibling groups, met approved adoptive families with whom they were placed. FY07 Heart Gallery funding received by CYFD was used to design portrait displays, print informational material, develop the heartgallerynm.org website, and advertise Heart Gallery events. If additional funding is appropriated, CYFD will use these monies to expand the current Heart Gallery program.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

This bill supports CYFD's efforts to increase the percent of children adopted within 24 months of entering foster care. This is a Federal Child and Family Service Review measure, and also a state-level Accountability in Government Act measure.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

CYFD works in partnership with the Heart Gallery of New Mexico. CYFD is able to absorb any administrative impact generated by this bill with existing staff.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

The Executive recommendation for CYFD includes a \$100.0 appropriation to support the Heart Gallery program.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

Status quo.

DL/mt