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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/19/09

SPONSOR Cook LAST UPDATED _____ HB 747

SHORT TITLE Birth Defects Surveillance Program SB _____

ANALYST Chabot

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$150.0	\$150.0	\$300.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Department of Health (DOH)

Department of Information Technology (DoIT)

New Mexico Health Policy Commission (HPC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 747, Birth Defect Surveillance Program appropriates \$150 thousand from the general fund to DOH for the purpose developing a birth defects surveillance program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC submitted a balanced general fund appropriation recommendation for fiscal year 2010. Any additional general fund expenditures appropriated by the Legislature must be off-set by an equal amount from the appropriation recommendation.

According to the December 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$293 million, or 2.6 percent, less than the FY09 appropriation. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DOH reports annually approximately 650 infants (1 out every 45 births) are born with a major birth defect and these are the second leading cause of death in New Mexico. Since 2000, birth defects are a reportable condition to DOH. Since these children have a greater chance of illness and long-term disabilities, early identification would allow proper medical care and early intervention services. DOH had a Birth Defects Registry until 2005 when the federal funding ended. The goals of a birth defect registry are to:

- Monitor the prevalence of birth defects in the State and analyze these data in conjunction with other data sources;
- Provide data for the preparation of plans to provide services needed by these children and their families;
- Track the impact and effectiveness of screening and prevention activities; and,
- Link early intervention and case management services to those children that have complex medical needs to support their development.

HPC cites the federal Center for Disease Control and Prevention which states there are many factors for birth defects. Some of these are obesity, medications and supplements both prescribed and over-the-counter and smoking. The CDC collects data from the states and uses it to:

- Find trends;
- Suggest areas for further research;
- Find factors linked with birth defects;
- Address community concerns about the environment's effect on birth defects; and
- Assess and measure effectiveness of screening and prevention efforts.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

DOH assesses it will need 1.5 FTE to administer the program which would be funded out of the appropriation.

GAC/svb