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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/20/09

SPONSOR Salazar LAST UPDATED _____ HB 800

SHORT TITLE Rio Arriba Community-Oriented Law Enforcement SB _____

ANALYST Weber

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$250.0	Non-recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 550 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Public Safety for community oriented law enforcement pilot program in Rio Arriba County.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250 thousand contained in this bill is described as for a pilot program and therefore a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY10 shall revert to the general fund.

According to the February 2009 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$575 million less than the FY09 appropriations before the 2009 solvency reductions. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The United States Department of Justice defines the following as community policing:

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies, which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

Community policing, recognizing that police rarely can solve public safety problems alone, encourages interactive partnerships with relevant stakeholders. The range of potential partners is large and these partnerships can be used to accomplish the two interrelated goals of developing solutions to problems through collaborative problem solving and improving public trust. The public should play a role in prioritizing public safety problems. The following is a list of potential and common partners in this effort.

1. Other Government Agencies-Law enforcement organizations can partner with a number of other government agencies to identify community concerns and offer alternative solutions. Examples of agencies include legislative bodies, prosecutors, probation and parole, public works departments, neighboring law enforcement agencies, health and human services, child support, ordinance enforcement, and schools.
2. Community Members/Groups-Individuals who live, work, or otherwise have an interest in the community-volunteers, activists, formal and informal community leaders, residents, visitors and tourists, and commuters-are a valuable resource for identifying community concerns. Partnerships with these factions of the community can engage the community in achieving specific goals at town hall meetings, neighborhood association meetings, decentralized offices/storefronts in the community, and team beat assignments.
3. Nonprofits/Service Providers-Advocacy and community-based organizations that provide services to the community and advocate on its behalf can be powerful partners. These groups often work with or are composed of individuals who share certain interests and can include such entities as victims groups, service clubs, support groups, issue groups, advocacy groups, and the faith community.
4. Private Businesses-For-profit businesses also have a great stake in the health of the community and can be key partners because they often bring considerable resources to bear on problems of mutual concern. Businesses can help identify problems and provide resources for responses, often including their own security apparatus and community outreach. The local chamber of commerce can also assist in disseminating information about police and business partnerships and initiatives.
5. Media-The media represent a powerful mechanism by which to communicate with the community. It can assist with publicizing community concerns and available solutions, such as services from government or community agencies or new laws or codes that will be enforced. In addition, the media can have a significant impact on public perceptions of the police, crime problems, and fear of crime.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

Should other counties be included in this initiative?

MW/mc