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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/10/9

SPONSOR Trujillo LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HJM 13

SHORT TITLE Veterans' Local Health and Telehealth Services SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Chabot

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$0.1	Recurring	To Be Determined

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		\$0.1		\$0.1	Recurring	To Be Determined

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Human Services Department (HSD)

New Mexico Health Policy Commission (HPC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 13, Veterans' Local Health and Telehealth Services, resolves that New Mexico departments that fund programs for veterans be requested to advocate for health care that is locally available even in New Mexico's smallest, most remote towns, and that DOH and HSD fund programs using telehealth providers available to veterans.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The memorial does not contain an appropriation.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

DOH states the joint memorial was developed in response to the acknowledged needs of the state’s veterans especially those from small communities and pueblos in rural areas. Both DOH and HSD fund programs providing services to veterans using telehealth. This is true in the areas of rural primary care and behavioral health using the resources of Project ECHO and the Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment program.

HSD reports “Veterans’ issues are being addressed through the NM Veteran and Family Support Services initiative, advised by a leadership group of governmental agency staff, academia, the Collaborate Statewide Entity contractors, providers, and consumers. The Task Force-developed program model is designed to serve active-duty military, veterans, and their families through a team approach of case management and clinical support.” The initial pilot project opened in Sandoval County in December 2007 and builds of telehealth services. The project is to be expanded to McKinley and San Juan counties.

HPC concurs with the above statements and adds the New Mexico Telehealth Alliance is partnering with DOH and the University of New Mexico (UNM) to develop a telehealth scheduling system. In addition the Department of Information Technology and the UNM Center for Telehealth and Cybermedicine are using federal funds “to design, create and implement a rural health telemedicine network throughout New Mexico.”

The Veterans’ Services Department has 17 field offices which may provide resources and assistance to rural areas implementing telehealth services.

GAC/mc