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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Chavez ORIGINAL DATE 02/09/09
LAST UPDATED _____ HJM 40
SHORT TITLE Study Impact of Nursing Shortage SB _____
ANALYST Moser

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$24.6		\$24.6	Nonrecurring	Board of Nursing Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Board of Nursing (BON)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 40 (HJM40) requests the New Mexico Board of Nursing to collaborate with the NM Center for Nursing Excellence, the Higher Education Department (NM HED) and other agencies and organizations to study the impact of a nursing instructor shortage on the status of nursing in New Mexico, identify the funding necessary to hire and retain an adequate number of nursing faculty at public colleges and universities, identify and recommend long-term, sustainable solutions to the shortage of nursing instructors at the state's schools of nursing, with findings and recommendations of this study be presented to the interim legislative health and human services committee by November 1, 2009; and that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the board of nursing, the secretary of higher education and the New Mexico center for nursing excellence.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Board of Nursing estimates that \$24.6 thousand will be required to compete this study.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The DOH indicates that for the past several years the nursing community in NM, along with other stakeholders in nursing, has been actively working to address issues of recruitment, nursing education, and retention. In 2002, the NM Commission of Higher Education and the University of NM Health Sciences Center produced the *Report from the NM Nursing Shortage Statewide Strategy Session (NS4)*. In 2005 and 2007, the NM Legislature passed memorials asking for an assessment of the nursing shortage, its impact on client safety and nurse retention, and recommendations for addressing identified issues. All of these memorial reports identified the same problems and made similar recommendations for recruitment, education and retention. Stakeholders involved in the effort to improve availability of nursing workforce are poised to implement previous study recommendations. An additional study may be unnecessary given the consistency of findings and recommendations for improvement currently available.

The January 2009 *NM Nursing Program Development Enhancement Fund Report* by the NM HED notes that from Fiscal Year 2004 to Fiscal Year 2009, over \$16.5 million has been allocated to public postsecondary institutions. Programs include the Nursing Student Loan-For-Service Program and the Nurse Educator Enhancement Fund. Since Fiscal Year 2008, an additional \$1 million has been made available to enhance nursing faculty salaries.

In 2008 the NM Board of Nursing and NM Center for Nursing Excellence partnered with NM First, a non-profit organization with expertise in consensus building and action teams, to host six town hall meetings around the state (Albuquerque, Roswell, Clovis, Las Cruces, Gallup, and Española). The goals of the town halls were to come to consensus on prioritizing the recommendations made through legislative memorials and other sources, and come to a consensus on a NM Nursing Council structure that would move the numerous recommendations to action. The NM Nursing Council would consist of community and state level stakeholders (individuals, agencies and organizations, including the NM HED. The report based on these town hall meetings is expected to be published in summer of 2009.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

HJM40 relates to the State of New Mexico 2008 Comprehensive Strategic Health Plan, Chapter 2: Workforce Issues, Goal 1: Increase the Health Professional Workforce Through Improved Recruitment and Retention Strategies; and, the Department of Health FY2010 Strategic Plan, Improving the Health System, System Objective 9: Improve recruitment, retention and training of healthcare providers in rural and underserved areas.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Board staff would be using work time to comply with the intent of the memorial. Approximately 0.25 FTE would need to be devoted to this effort in order to provide appropriate leadership and administrative support.

RELATIONSHIP

HJM40 relates to:

- HB224, which would appropriate \$775,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2010 to increase the number of admissions for the Bachelor of Science in nursing program;

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- SB283, which would appropriate \$380,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of Western New Mexico University for expenditure in FY2010 to expand the nursing program and to adjust nursing faculty salaries in order to retain qualified staff; and,
- SB410, which would appropriate \$50,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of Eastern New Mexico University for expenditure in FY2010 to assure access for area registered nurses who are completing the requirements for a bachelor's degree in nursing.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The BON points out that if we do not collaboratively address this issue there will continue to be no specific goals and objectives set on a statewide level, or expectations met, to identify and recommend long-term, sustainable solutions to the shortage of nursing instructors and the factors that may be barriers to recruit and retain these instructors for the identified nursing education needs of NM.

GM/svb