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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/27/09

SPONSOR Wallace **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HM** 51

New Mexico Speech Language and Hearing

SHORT TITLE Association Day **SB** _____

ANALYST Sanchez, C.

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Non-Rec | Fund Affected |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| FY09 | FY10 | | |
| | NFI | | |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD)
Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 51 proclaims March 13, 2009 as “New Mexico Speech-Language and Hearing Association Day” at the House of Representatives.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

NFI

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The New Mexico Speech-Language Hearing Association (NMSHA) is the state's professional body of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists.

The mission of NMSHA is to promote the interests of the professions and provide the highest quality of support services. NMSHA also aims to promote the prevention and treatment of communication disabilities for the people of New Mexico.

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According to RLD, the memorial recognizes the following:

- 1 in 10 NM families are affected by a hearing, speech or language impairment that can present obstacles to academic achievement, social adjustment and career advancement.
- Audiology and speech-language pathology services help empower individuals.
- Audiologists and speech-language pathologists work to eliminate the isolating effects of communication disorders.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

HM51 states that one in ten New Mexican families are affected by a hearing, speech or language impairment that, if untreated, can present significant obstacles to academic achievement, social adjustment and career advancement.

According to DOH, hearing, speech and language impairments are fairly common disorders that are amenable to intervention by professional audiologists and speech-language pathologists.

According DOH, there is currently a shortage in our state of these professionals compared to demand for these services, especially in rural areas. Stating appreciation, may contribute to keeping these professionals working within our state.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The Legislature would not have a “New Mexico Speech-Language and Hearing Day”.

CS/mt

