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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/27/09  
 LAST UPDATED 03/19/09      HB \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR    SRC \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE    Interim Human Services Committee      SB CS/172&242/aHHGAC

ANALYST    Chabot

### 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

Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD)  
 Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)  
 Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)  
 Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)  
 Department of Health (DOH)  
 Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC)  
 General Services Department (GSD)  
 New Mexico Health Policy Commission (HPC)  
 Workforce Solutions Department (WSD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of HHGAC Amendment

The House Health and Government Affairs Committee amendment to Senate Rules Committee Substitute for Senate Bills 172 and 242, Interim Human Services Committee, expands the size of the Legislative Health Committee to 10 members split equally from each house and requires the House Health and Government Affairs and Senate Public Affairs committees to have a representative on the interim committee.

#### Synopsis of Substitute Bill

Senate Rules Committee Substitute for Senate Bills 172 and 242, Interim Human Services Committee, reorganizes Legislative Interim Committees from the Legislative Health and Human

Services Committee and the Welfare Reform Oversight Committee to the Legislative Health Committee and to the Human Services Committee.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

This bill would abolish the interim Legislative Health and Human Services Committee. The Welfare Reform Oversight Committee authority ended December 15, 2008. In their place, the joint Legislative Health and the Human Services Committees would be created.

The Legislative Health Committee is to be composed of eight members, four from each House, appointed by the New Mexico Legislative Council which will also designate the chair and vice chair. Party proportional representation will be used to determine the party members from each house. Provision is provided for removing members by the Legislative Council at the recommendation of the chair.

The Legislative Health Committee would study and conduct oversight of the programs, agencies, policies, issues and needs relating to health including review and study of statutes, constitutional provisions, regulations and court decisions governing health programs, agencies and issues. The committee would oversee all aspects of medical assistance programs and other health-related programs of HSD, ALTSD and CYFD. The committee shall make an annual report of its findings and recommendations to each session of the Legislature. Subcommittees may be created with the prior approval of Legislative Council. Minimum membership requirements are specified. The staff for the committee will be provided by the Health Unit to be created in the Legislative Council Service composed of persons knowledgeable and proficient in the areas of health coverage and delivery of health care services, health care economics, research, law or policy analysis.

The Welfare Reform Oversight Committee will be replaced by the Human Services Committee which will function until 15 days before the first session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature (2029). It is to be composed of 12 members, six from each house, appointed by the New Mexico Legislative Council who will designate the chair and vice chairs. Proportional representation will be used to determine party members from each house. Provision is provided for removing members by the Legislative Council at the recommendation of the chair.

The Legislative Human Services Committee would have the following responsibilities:

1. examine statutes, constitutional provisions and rules governing welfare reform;
2. oversee the New Mexico Works Act;
3. review issues related to job training and public benefits, cash assistance, child care, transportation and other job-related services, alleviation of poverty, homelessness and hunger related to helping New Mexicans rise out of poverty, participate in the work force and earn a family-sustaining wage;
4. make recommendation on rules and legislation;
5. conduct continuing study of program, agencies, policies, issues and needs relating to human services; and
6. study the full continuum of programs and services available to children, families and the aging.

The Legislative Human Services Committee will regularly receive testimony from the secretaries of HSD, WSD, CYFD, DOH, HED and PED on poverty issues and shall review proposed rules, schedules and formulae before adoption.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

The bill would clearly establish the responsibilities of the new committees eliminating overlap and duplication.

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

The interim Legislative Health and Human Services Committee would assume all responsibilities of the Welfare Reform Oversight Committee.

GAC/mt:svb