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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/12/09

SPONSOR Campos LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Create Birthing Workforce Retention Fund SB 349

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

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

Department of Health (DOH)

New Mexico Health Policy Commission (HPC)

Workforce Solutions Department (WSD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 349, Create Birthing Workforce Retention Fund, creates the non-reverting birthing workforce retention fund to provide malpractice insurance premium assistance for certified nurse-midwives or physicians whose insurance premium costs jeopardize their ability to continue obstetrics practices. The fund shall consist of appropriations, grants, and donations and be administered by DOH. The department will develop procedures and rules for application and awards. Applicants must be either a certified nurse midwife or a physician licensed in New Mexico with at least one-half the patients being insured by Medicaid or indigent. The applicant must have malpractice insurance and prove the premiums have increased every year for two years. Awards must be at least \$5 thousand and the priority of awards is the following:

1. Nurse-midwives; and
2. Family practice physicians and obstetricians.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The bill has no appropriation.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Chapter 73, Laws 2008 was enacted and created the birthing workforce retention fund in Section 41.5-26.1 (NMSA 1976). This bill is basically the same except the 2008 law put an upper cap on the award of \$10 thousand and DOH has to make an annual report to the LFC of the status of the fund.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

1. Is there a need for this bill?

GAC/svb

Attachment