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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/12/09

SPONSOR Campos LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Nursing Home Care for the Elderly Film SB 350

ANALYST Chabot

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$100.0	Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD)
 Department of Health (DOH)
 Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC)
 Economic Development Department (EDD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 350, Nursing Home Care for the Elderly Film, appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to DOH for the purpose of producing an educational film about nursing home care for free distribution to help families make informed decision about care for their elderly loved ones.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 thousand contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC submitted a balanced general fund appropriation recommendation for fiscal year 2010. Any additional general fund expenditures appropriated by the Legislature must be off-set by an equal amount from the appropriation recommendation.

According to the December 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$293 million, or 2.6 percent, less than the FY09 appropriation. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DOH states “Choosing a nursing home for a family member is a very important issue and information is readily available to individuals. For example, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provides online information about all certified nursing homes in the United States. Nursing Home Compare includes information on payment and patient rights, and a nursing home checklist which will help individuals evaluate the nursing homes.

The website (<http://www.medicare.gov/Nursing/Overview.asp>) is an interactive tool that allows individuals to access comparison information about nursing homes. It contains information on every Medicare and Medicaid-certified nursing home in the country, including over 17,000 nationwide. Nursing Home Compare includes: Nursing home characteristics such as number of beds, type of ownership and whether or not the nursing home participates in Medicare, Medicaid or both. It contains valuable information about resident characteristics including percent of residents with pressure sores, percent of residents with urinary incontinence and summary information about nursing homes during their last State inspection. It also contains information on the number of registered nurses, licensed practical or vocational nurses, and nursing assistants in each nursing home.

The CMS website provides a detailed checklist for rating different nursing homes visited based upon, Quality of Life, Quality of Care, Nutrition and Hydration, and Safety. The checklist also elaborates on how to use the information discovered through Nursing Home Compare when visiting nursing homes. Additionally, the site contains other valuable resources and links to publications related to choosing a nursing home.”

ALTSD reports “Residents and family members often enter a nursing home during a time of fear and anxiety and chose one fairly quickly.” Individuals have little knowledge and experience with nursing facilities and lack information on the decision. The film envisioned by this bill would assist families in making decisions concerning nursing homes and “familiarize people with life in a nursing home, opportunities for rehabilitation, and the role of the family in support of the resident.”

DDPC recommends collaboration with higher education institutions and their film study programs to reduce the costs.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

DOH would have to prepare a Request for Proposal to contract for the film production. In addition, a distribution mechanism would have to be established. Format of the film would have to be determined such as film, VHS tape and/or DVD.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DOH suggests the appropriation would be more appropriate to ALTSD which concurs with the recommendation. ALTSD would assign the project to the Ombudsman Program.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

Recommend on line 17 striking “department of health” and inserting “aging and long-term services department”

GAC/mc