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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/19/09

SPONSOR Griego LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Mora Valley Ambulance Services SB 469

ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$60.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance & Administration (DFA)

Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 496 appropriates \$60,000 from the general fund to the Local Government Division of DFA for expenditure in fiscal year 2010 and subsequent fiscal years to contract for ambulance services in the Mora valley.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$60,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

According to the February 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$575 million less than the FY09 appropriations before the 2009 solvency reductions. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

New Mexico has approximately 450 Emergency Medical System (EMS) services. Many services are located in rural communities and have difficulty with providing financial support to day to day operations of a service. When emergency medical services are not provided to the community, patients are not be treated or transferred to appropriate care. Patients in these communities may suffer due to longer response times and a diminished level of care. If services are not provided to the community, it is may be necessary for other health and medical services to assist emergency medical services.

Mora County has a total population of about 5,500 people, about half of whom live in Mora Valley. Residences are spread out and personal transportation is limited for some families. The ambulance service is a critical safety net for both residents and tourists. The ambulance service which serves Mora Valley and the surrounding area is certified by the Public Regulation Commission as an ambulance service. They have a physician medical director, EMS service director, and a training coordinator. They respond when dispatched for all medical and traumatic health emergencies within the Mora Valley and the surrounding areas of Mora County.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

DFA should be able to handle the enforcement of the provisions in this bill as part of ongoing responsibilities.

DW/mc