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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/06/12

SPONSOR Stapleton LAST UPDATED _____ HB 291

SHORT TITLE District 19 Crime Prevention SB _____

ANALYST Boerner

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY12	FY13		
	\$100.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 291 appropriates \$100,000 from the general fund to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance Diviaion to pay for crime awareness and prevention training to neighborhood associations in District 19 to increase public safety in the City of Albuquerque.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100,000 contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2013 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The DFA argues that since the City of Albuquerque has an ordinance specifying requirements for a group to be officially recognized as a “neighborhood association,” more civic organizations and neighborhood groups within district 19 could benefit from crime prevention programs if the bill directed the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) to provide crime awareness programs to neighborhood associations in district 19 .

The APD has an extensive Neighborhood Crime Prevention Program (NCPP) which offers Neighborhood Watch and other crime prevention programs to civic organizations, church groups, neighborhood associations, service clubs and other groups throughout Albuquerque. Assistance is provided in organizing and training Neighborhood Watch groups.

The DFA notes that according to the National Sheriff's Association, neighborhood crime prevention programs have been effective in bringing community members together to reduce crime rates by decreasing opportunities for crimes to occur. Further, most neighborhood crime prevention groups are started with assistance from a law enforcement agency.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The DFA argues that the APD, through its NCPP, is best suited for providing the training to be funded by this appropriation. The NCPP provides neighborhood associations throughout Albuquerque with crime awareness and prevention training.

The DFA explains that state appropriations for local programs funneled through a local public body are typically handled on a reimbursement basis. This means that the City of Albuquerque would likely have to pay the costs for crime awareness and prevention training provided to neighborhood associations in district 19 upfront from its general fund. The city would then submit a reimbursement request to the LGD.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The DFA states that because the appropriation is made to the LGD, this will increase the workload of LGD's program managers who oversee state appropriations. However, amending the bill to direct the APD to provide the crime awareness training would reduce the impact to the LGD.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The DFA suggests that the bill specify that the APD be charged with providing the crime awareness and prevention training to neighborhood associations in district 19. This would ensure that a variety of community organizations, including those not officially designated as "neighborhood associations" by the City of Albuquerque, may take advantage of crime prevention programs as a result of this appropriation.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The DFA states that if the bill is not enacted, neighborhood associations within district 19 can contact the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Program (NCPP) within the APD to obtain crime awareness and prevention training that is currently offered by the NCPP.

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS

The DFA recommends language in lines 19 and 20 be amended to read "crime awareness and prevention training provided by the Albuquerque Police Department to neighborhood associations in district 19..."