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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/22/13
 LAST UPDATED 03/04/13 HJR 11/aHHGAC

SPONSOR Chasey

SHORT TITLE Healthcare as a Right, CA SB _____

ANALYST Esquibel

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total			\$46.0		Non-recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SJR5, Healthcare as a Right, CA

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Human Services Department (HSD)

Office of the Attorney General (AGO)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HHGAC Amendment

The House Health, Government and Indian Affairs Committee (HHGAC) amendment to House Joint Resolution 11 proposes to amend Article 2 of the Constitution of New Mexico by adding a new section to establish a fundamental right to health care.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Joint Resolution 11 (HJR11) would amend Article 2 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

“Health care is a fundamental right that is an essential safeguard of human life and dignity. The state shall ensure that every resident has the opportunity to realize this right by establishing a comprehensive system of quality health care that is accessible to each resident on an equitable basis regardless of ability to pay; provided that this section does not commit the state to any specific spending or reform proposal.”

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The approximate cost per constitutional ballot amendment is \$46 thousand. The costs include publishing the amendments in newspapers statewide, publishing the voter guide, and recording and broadcasting the constitutional amendments in Native American languages on radio.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Office of the Attorney General writes “If the state made progress toward ensuring that all New Mexicans had access to adequate health care, it would directly and indirectly improve the life of every New Mexican who currently lacks health insurance coverage and who will remain uncovered after implementation of the new federal Affordable Care Act.”

RAE/blm