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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/21/13

SPONSOR Miera LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HM 51

SHORT TITLE Bilingual Behavioral Health Professionals SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Wojahn

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	NFI					

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
Human Services Department (HSD)

Responses Not Received From  
Department of Health (DOH)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 51 (HM 51) requests that the New Mexico Health Policy Commission study the importance of and the barriers to meeting the need for recruiting and retaining an adequate supply of bilingual behavioral health professionals.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The New Mexico Health Policy Commission was last funded for FY 12 with \$8,400 and 2 FTE, and was not funded in FY 13.

The HSD's Strategic Plan for 2014 includes a goal of aligning New Mexico's behavioral health system within the changing healthcare environment by expanding and improving the capacity of the behavioral health workforce in New Mexico. The adequate supply of behavioral health professionals is a critical issue for New Mexico, especially the supply of professionals who are bilingual. HM 51 outlines the importance of involving a wide array of state agencies, health plans, professionals and consumers in such a study.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

Technically, the Health Policy Commission does not exist.

**AMENDMENTS**

HM 51 should be amended to request the DOH and HSD to study the importance of and the barriers to meeting the need for recruiting and retaining bilingual behavioral health professionals.

MEW/svb