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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lundstrom **ORIGINAL DATE** 02/03/14
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** 203

SHORT TITLE San Juan Domestic Violence Program **SB** _____

ANALYST Klundt

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
\$0.0	\$60.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)
 Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 203 appropriates \$60.0 thousand from the general fund to the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) for the operation of a domestic violence prevention shelter in western San Juan County. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY15 shall revert to the general fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

This bill appropriates \$60.0 thousand from the general fund to the Local Government Division of DFA for the operation of a domestic violence prevention shelter in western San Juan County. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY15 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The effects of domestic violence on children can be serious and long term. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in the year 2000, an average of 2,400 children was victims of child abuse each day, many of which were at the hands of a parent. Additionally, an average of three children dies in this country every day because of child abuse or neglect.

Children who are the victim of domestic violence may also experience developmental delays or behavioral health issues. Providers for domestic violence may remediate these risk factors through services such as counseling and emergency shelter.

According to DFA, this bill would require DFA to increase its operational budget to ensure that expenditures are covered related to responsibilities of training (recruitment, counseling, security, court advocacy, financial management and internal controls), technical assistance (strategic plan for a domestic violence shelter), legal (family law attorney), direct and indirect costs (oversight).

The agency reported that if DFA was to assume operations of a Domestic Violence Prevention Shelter, the expenses associated with the new responsibilities would include the need to increase DFA capacity related to training, staffing and technical assistance, because the agency will have to perform oversight duties and responsibilities with no technical expertise. However, the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) currently has programming and the technical expertise to support this bill.

CYFD currently administers domestic violence programming throughout the state. In FY14 operating budget for CYFD Domestic Violence and Family Violence unit is \$11 million, and the LFC recommendation includes an increase for capacity building for domestic violence programming in FY15. Currently, there are two domestic violence shelters serving the area specified by this bill. CYFD reports that the agency has contracts with one shelter in Farmington and one shelter in Shiprock to provide domestic violence services. Additional funding from this bill could be supported by the agency for expanding domestic violence programming in San Juan County.

RELATIONSHIP

This bill relates to SB 236 which appropriates \$60.0 thousand from the general fund to the Local Government Division of DFA for the operation of a domestic violence prevention shelter in western San Juan County.

This bill relates to SB 194 which appropriates \$4.0 million from the general fund to CYFD to contract with a statewide entity that provides leadership, training and support for programs assisting victims and survivors of domestic violence.

This bill relates to SB 121 which bill appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to CYFD for expenditure in FY15 on technical assistance to domestic violence providers through a statewide domestic violence coalition to assess the feasibility of providing mental health services billed through Medicaid and to develop the billing infrastructure if it is found feasible. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2015 shall revert to the general fund.

This bill relates to SB 120 \$1.0 million from the general fund to CYFD to fund domestic violence programming throughout the state.

This bill relates to SB 187 which appropriate \$100 thousand from the general fund to CYFD to enhance the system of temporary care and housing of animals of victims of domestic violence.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to the DFA, the Local Government Division does not have the capacity or expertise and would have to hire and/or train staff in counseling, support groups, security measures and court advocacy related to domestic violence. DFA would also have to create regulations for oversight responsibilities associated with operations of a domestic violence shelter; produce updates and report to other regulatory agencies on domestic violence statistics. Further the agency states that DFA staff would also need to be out of the office on a regular basis to conduct technical assistance and to assist in implementation of operations of domestic violence prevention shelter.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

DFA states that this bill does not address how Local Government Division would work in collaboration with the Eleventh Judicial District Court and local law enforcement in San Juan County.

ALTERNATIVES

This bill could be amended to appropriate the funding to CYFD which already maintains programming and the technical expertise to support this bill.

KK/ds:jl