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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**SPONSOR** Salazar, T. **ORIGINAL DATE** 02/04/14  
**LAST UPDATED** \_\_\_\_\_ **HJM** 3

**SHORT TITLE** Study Family Caregiver Roles & Policies **SB** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANALYST** Esquibel

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

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

	FY14	FY15	FY16	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		\$14.0			Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

HJM 3 is a companion to HJM 4

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Human Services Department (HSD)

Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD)

#### SUMMARY

##### Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 3 would create a family caregiver coalition to be convened by the secretary of the Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) and to include the Human Services Department secretary (or designee) and various representatives from the stakeholder community to identify resources and programs for family caregivers.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

HJM 3 does not include an appropriation.

HSD indicates HJM 4 would require participation of HSD staff at an approximate cost of \$14 thousand.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The coalition would receive testimony on the needs of caregivers including:

- Designation of caregivers
- Training of caregivers
- Respite services
- Medical leave policies
- Delegation of tasks to non-medical aids

The task force would also be required to make policy recommendations regarding family caregivers in the state, compile an inventory of resources available to family caregivers, and develop a plan for family caregivers in New Mexico.

ALTSD would be required to report on the work of the task force to the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee by November 1, 2014.

HSD indicates a task force was created in 2010 to address this issue, and determined there were insufficient resources to provide training to caregivers. In addition, the task force found there were insufficient resources to fund respite services while caregivers were training.

ALTSD indicates the task force created by HJM 3 would build on the work of the recently-completed New Mexico State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias, which addressed caregiver needs and strategies specific to family caregivers of people with dementia.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

ALTSD indicates due to the structure of the Aging and Long-Term Services Department, the bill could be amended to indicate appointments to the task force of "one representative from each of the four area agencies on aging," (p. 4, lines 3 and 4) and of "one representative of the senior companion programs," (p. 4, lines 23 and 24) would be made by the ALTSD secretary rather than the chief of the senior services bureau.

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

ALTSD indicates an estimated 287,000 New Mexicans serve as caregivers at any given time, and the economic value of the care they provide is \$3.1 billion. In the absence of family caregivers, these costs would fall more directly upon government systems, particularly Medicaid. A Congressional Budget Office report (2013) claims the economic value of unpaid family caregiving exceeds the combined total of institutional care and home and community based services for persons over age 65.

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The tasks associated with family caregiving are myriad, and can include management of finances, medications, transportation, housekeeping, nutrition and more. Research indicates caregiving for chronically ill family and friends has significant negative impact on caregivers' physical and psychological health, finances and retirement.

RAE/ds:svb