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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Morales **ORIGINAL DATE** 01/21/15 **HB** _____
LAST UPDATED

SHORT TITLE ID and Address Local and Tribal Health Needs **SB** 79

ANALYST Dunbar

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	\$900.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SB79 duplicates HB99, which appropriates funds for county and tribal health councils to identify and implement community health improvement strategies.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Children, Youth, and Families Department (CYFD)

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 79 appropriates \$900,000 from the general fund to the DOH for expenditure in FY16 to fund county and tribal health councils to identify community health needs and strategy development to address needs pursuant to the Maternal and Child Health Plan Act.

There are 38 recognized community and tribal health councils in New Mexico. These councils conduct community health needs assessments to determine the status of health issues, how serious they are, what resources exist to address them, and what needs must be met to address critical health issues. These funds would also be used to implement chosen strategies, in collaboration with local partners, to address these prioritized needs and to improve health outcomes.

New Mexico Community Health Councils serve as official advisory bodies to county and tribal governments, and to DOH. The health councils, DOH states, provide key leadership in local public health systems. They mobilize citizens, health providers, schools, businesses, and other stakeholders to improve the health of communities. The councils develop community health profiles and community health plans. Their community health profiles and plans provide valuable information to policy makers and other community stakeholders. Health councils foster community-driven decisions and actions. Councils strengthen partnerships, bring new resources into their communities, improve collaboration among programs and services, and develop joint programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$900,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY16 shall revert to the general fund.

This appropriation is not included in the Executive Budget Request.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

IAD comments that health councils are a strong preventive approach in impacting youth death rates in New Mexico. NM Native American population, according to IAD, is exposed to more risks on a daily basis because of poverty rates which are compounded by large distances to health services and facilities.

A statewide evaluation process by DOH, the health councils, and an evaluation team from the University of New Mexico, collected and reported data on council actions and outcomes. They found that the work of the councils resulted in their ability to leverage funds for local communities, and that their work supported the development of policies to improve community health.

In their role as planning and coordinating bodies, the health councils reported obtaining an additional \$3,748,232 in grants and other contributions to their communities in 2009. Funds supported a wide variety of programs and initiatives related to their health priorities. Councils also worked at the local, county, tribal, and state-wide levels to mobilize communities in support of policies to improve health

(<http://www.nmhealthcouncils.org/www.nmhealthcouncils.org/nmhealthcouncils>).

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

HB99 relates to the DOH FY2016 Strategic Plan, Goal 1: Improve Health Outcomes for the People of New Mexico, Goal 2: Improve Health Care Quality, and Public Information and Education.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB79 duplicates HB99, which appropriates funds for county and tribal health councils to identify and implement community health improvement strategies.

BD/bb