

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov) and may also be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Chasey ORIGINAL DATE 2/7/16
LAST UPDATED _____ HM 83

SHORT TITLE Reconvene J. Paul Taylor Childhood Task Force SB _____

ANALYST Klundt

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY15	FY16	FY17	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total			NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SJM1

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)

University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNMHSC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 83 requests the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNM HSC) to reconvene for the J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force in order to continue working to improve collaboration among stakeholders and developing further early childhood behavioral health and child abuse prevention plans; and that by December 1, 2016, the task force report its latest recommendations to the legislative health and human services and legislative finance committees.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no appropriation included in HM 83; no additional impact on the operating budgets for UNM HSC or the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) were reported. However, the CYFD believes the taskforce may be duplicative since many of the same agencies and individuals working with Governor appointed Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) are working to perform many of the same initiatives.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

In response to HM 75 and SM 5 (2014), the UNM HSC convened the J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force (task force) and developed recommendations to strengthen New Mexico's early childhood behavioral health services system.

CYFD believes that the task force duplicates responsibilities and tasks of the Governor appointed Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC), created under the Early Childhood Care and Education Act.

The Early Childhood and Education Act outlines detailed statutory responsibilities of the ELAC. Included in these responsibilities is to “make recommendations to the department and the legislature on how to coordinate and align an early childhood care and education system to include child care, pre-kindergarten, home visitation, early head start, head start, early childhood special education, early intervention and family support and to provide New Mexico families with consistent access to appropriate care and education services...”, to “...“ensure effective collaboration with state and local child welfare programs and early childhood health and behavioral health programs” and to “consider the advancement of quality early childhood care and education programs in order to support the healthy development of children...” The Early Childhood Care and Education Act also gives authority to the ELAC to establish subcommittees composed of ELAC members as well as experts in the field. A working meeting of ELAC members is currently being scheduled to establish a number of sub-committees. Based on the work and planning of the ELAC to date, CYFD has previously reported the subcommittees may duplicate work required by HM83.

CYFD also reported the agency has made significant strides in the development of an infant/toddler/early childhood mental/behavioral health system throughout the state. The agency believes it is imperative that the J. Paul Taylor Task Force continue to work closely with CYFD to build upon these accomplishment and to ensure that planning efforts are coordinated and focused to address such issues as the lack of infant and early childhood trained providers, including pediatricians, child psychiatrist, psychologists, to deliver services through Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment.

ALTERNATIVES

CYFD proposed to ensure a better coordination of effort, and avoid a duplication of efforts and diffusion of resources; this task force could be convened as a sub-committee of the governor-appointed Early Learning Advisory Council.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The AODA stated the task force has worked for two years to create an early childhood behavioral health action plan and child abuse prevention plan, and believes stopping its work now could hamper the ability of the task force to implement its plans.

KK/jle