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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Munoz ORIGINAL DATE _____
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Gallup Veterans' Services SB 116

ANALYST Rogers

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	\$70.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Veterans' Services Department (VSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 116 appropriates \$70 thousand from the general fund to the Veterans' Services Department for the purpose of funding the salary and benefits of one full-time-equivalent (FTE) position to provide services to veterans in Gallup.

Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY17 will revert to the general fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

VSD already is currently budgeted for a position in Gallup as well as a position in Grants. The department has not expressed a need for an additional FTE in the region. While the position in Gallup may be vacant, the department is actively recruiting to fill the vacancy. The department has five vacancies out of a total 50 FTE.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

VSD stated that it serves over 170 thousand veterans across the state. The VSD headquarters are located in Santa Fe, with 19 field service officers located statewide. The field officers are tasked

with providing services to veterans and their families and assistance with applying for both federal and state benefits that they have earned through their military service. VSD receives general fund appropriation as an executive agency and, in FY16, is currently budgeted for a total of 50 FTE.

VSD is in the process of advertising for a vacant field officer position that will serve veterans in the Gallup and McKinley County area and hopes to go through the recruitment and interview process to fill the position no later than March 1, 2016.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to VSD appropriation in HB 2.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Position for FTE in Gallup has been posted to the State Personnel Office (SPO) for recruitment.

TMR/jle/jo