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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/19/16

SPONSOR Padilla LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Resources SM 1

ANALYST Chilton

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	NFI		

Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)
 Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD)
 Human Services Department (HSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

Senate Memorial 1 requests a task force study services available to equip grandparents raising grandchildren to best fulfill this function, and to suggest other services that might better prepare them for this task. The types of resources suggested have to do with legal services, financial resources, food and housing assistance, medical care, child care, education, and transportation.

The task force established by this memorial would report its findings to the Legislative Committee on Health and Human Services for the purpose of improving the resources available.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None. There is no appropriation attached to this memorial. ALTSD, HSD, and CYFD would provide staff support and coordination from existing resources. However, the agencies charged with administering the task note that they incur some personnel time for the purpose of convening and administering the task force.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

It is estimated that almost 60,000 children in New Mexico are under the primary care of their grandparents, usually through the inability of their parents to care for them. In some cases, thought to be a small proportion of the entire group, the grandparents have been given kinship guardianship through CYFD, but in the majority of cases, no such formalization of the arrangement has occurred.

2014 SJM 14 and 2015 SM 8 established and continued a task force under the sponsorship of CYFD; it reported that few public services and resources were available to aid grandparents in fulfilling this role. Continuation of the task force is requested so that it might make concrete proposals for legislation that would improve these services and resources.

A lead executive agency needs to be identified.

RELATES to 2014 Senate Joint Memorial 14 and 2015 Senate Memorial 8, which established and continued this task force.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Legislators would not have access to the determination of what additional services and resources could be provided to grandparents raising their grandchildren.

LAC/jo/jle