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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Campos **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/10/16 **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE Early Childhood Service Provider Task Force **SM** 65

ANALYST Chilton

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	none		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Public Education Department (PED)

Response Not Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

Senate Memorial 65, Early Childhood Service Provider Task Force, would request that CYFD and PED convene a task force that would improve communication, coordination and collaboration among early childhood service providers, specifying its composition to include CYFD, PED, the Indian Affairs Department, the New Mexico and tribal Head start Associations, New Mexico Association for the Education of Young Children, the New Mexico Child Care and Education Association, the New Mexico Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC), and family care homes. The task force would be asked to report to the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee by October 1, 2016.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No appropriation is included. The agencies would be asked to absorb the costs of convening and attending the task force meetings. PED notes that community providers' ability to participate in task force meetings might be limited due to travel and personnel costs.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The memorial points out that federal funds for Head start programs are reverting to the federal government in part because competing programs, such as school system early childhood programs, are enrolling children who might otherwise enroll in Head start. Thus it asserts state and local funds could be freed up by better coordination among these programs, so more federal funds could supplant those provided from within the state.

PED and CYFD both make note of the existence of the Early Learning Advisory Council, attached to CYFD, and making recommendations like those envisioned under this memorial. PED indicates the duplication of function makes this task force unnecessary.

PED notes that “The ELAC acts as the council required by the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007. As such, the ELAC is tasked to ‘... lead the development or enhancement of a high-quality, comprehensive system of early childhood development and care that ensures statewide coordination and collaboration among the wide range of early childhood programs and services with the state...’ In addition to other duties, under federal law the ELAC “... shall make recommendations to the department and the legislature on how to coordinate and align an early childhood care and education system...””

In addition, the J. Paul Taylor Task Force on Early Childhood, established by legislative memorial, performs some of the same functions.

CONFLICT or DUPLICATION with SJM 1 and HM 83, both of which would re-convene the J. Paul Taylor Task Force for another year, and with the statute called Early Learning Advisory Council Created, New Mexico Statutes 1978, Section 32A-23A-4.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The lead agency in convening the task force is not identified, and no means of allocating functions among this task force, ELAC and the J. Paul Taylor Task Force is specified.

ALTERNATIVES

CYFD suggests that the task force could be a subcommittee of ELAC.

LAC/al