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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/10/17

SPONSOR Papen LAST UPDATED _____ HM _____

SHORT TITLE Neurological Disorders Data Base SM 29

ANALYST Chilton

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY17	FY18	FY19	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		<\$160.0	<\$160.0	<\$320.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates House Memorial 33

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)

Department of Information Technology (DoIT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

The memorial asserts the importance and prevalence of neurological disorders and the importance of making data available to researchers and others for the purpose of finding remedies for neurological disorders. It makes note of the fact that much research is being done around the world on neurological disorders, including here in New Mexico. It asks that DOH establish a database of patients with neurological disorders and share aggregate data with researchers around the world.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No appropriation is made.

The Department of Health estimates that the cost of creating and maintaining a database for neurological disorders would be on \$160,000 per year: “IT infrastructure, including one FTE, would be required to establish the database, and an epidemiologist would be needed to maintain the database, oversee the data collection and share the data with researchers. A computer system may also need to be purchased to create a database. Estimated cost: \$160,000.”

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Many of the disorders affecting the brain and nervous system have no current available and effective treatments, though there is promise through research being performed both within New Mexico and throughout the world. Some of that research is basic science – test tube research looking at brain components and the effect of drugs and other compounds on those compounds. Some, however, is epidemiological: who gets which neurological disorders, and what might have been associated with them. And some research looks at proving new diagnostic and treatment methods in patients with neurological disease.

Just within the University of New Mexico clinical and research neurologists are working on the following disorders: in adults, muscular dystrophy, medical marijuana in neurological disorders, Parkinson's disease, dystonia, dementia, ischemic vascular disease, West Nile neuroinvasive disease, cerebral small vessel disease, stroke prevention and treatment, sleep, depression and epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, neuroimmunology, epilepsy, vascular cognitive impairment, deep brain stimulation, meningitis, Alzheimer's disease, neuropathic pain, effects of aging, cerebrovascular disease associated with menopause, brain tumor treatment; in children, the developing brain, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

Basic scientists often base their research on problems frequently encountered in patients, and clinical researchers would be benefited by the same epidemiological information. Availability of such information on New Mexico patients would aid them in their research, to the eventual benefit of patients with neurological disorders.

The Department of Health notes the existence in New Mexico of data on neurological disorders: Currently, neurological disorder data are being collected by the NMDOH under the Health Information Systems Act (Section 24-14A NMSA 1978). <https://www.nmlegis.gov/sessions/12%20Regular/final/HB0018.pdf> The Act allows for the collection of neurological disorder data through routine collection of data regarding hospitalizations, emergency department visits and other datasets. Neurological disorder data are collected and stored at the client medical record level by the Epidemiology and Response Division of NMDOH.

Upon request, aggregate data can be shared with researchers. Thus, the purpose of the memorial is unclear as the data are already being collected by the NMDOH, although not in a separate neurologic disorders database.

DUPLICATION of House Memorial 33

TECHNICAL ISSUES

It is not clear what the definition of “neurological disorder” is; almost certainly, for example, most psychiatric problems will be found to have a basis in the structure and/or the physiology of the brain.

The memorial does not state whether neurologists and other medical providers would be required or just permitted to contribute patient information to the statewide database.

ALTERNATIVES

DoIT notes that “Instead of building another, separate database of healthcare data, the State could either work toward a more enterprise structure to store and provide access to this type of data, or could investigate more networked possibilities. For example, instead of building a database, pull together data from applicable sources as needed.”

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

No new neurological disorder database would be created, perhaps missing the opportunity to supply statewide data to researchers within and outside New Mexico.

LAC/al