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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Thomson/Armstrong, D ORIGINAL DATE 2/14/18 LAST UPDATED _____ HM 118

SHORT TITLE Cerebral Palsy Early Detection SB _____

ANALYST Chilton

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY18	FY19	FY20	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Memorial

House Memorial 113 asks the Chancellor for Health Services at the University of New Mexico (UNM HSC) to reconvene the current task force on early identification of cerebral palsy. It notes the importance of early identification of the disorder to ultimate outcome. It asks that the current task force membership, which includes

- Representatives from UNM HSC
- Physicians, including
 - Pediatricians
 - Pediatric neurologists
 - Neonatologists
- Nurses
- Physical therapists
- Occupational therapists
- Social workers
- Representatives of health care facilities
- HSD representatives
- Parents (presumably of affected infants).

To this group, the memorial asks that the following be added:

- Representatives from the Interagency Benefits Advisory Committee
- Representatives from private health insurance plans.
- The added members would be charged especially with identifying health policy guidelines that would facilitate early diagnosis and referral of children with suspected

cerebral palsy.

The memorial resolves that health professionals and children’s parents and guardians should be encouraged to seek early identification and intervention for cerebral palsy.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

UNM HSC would bear the costs of continuing to convene meetings of the task force, and HSD’s participation would incur a small personnel time need.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the incidence of cerebral palsy is between 1.5 and 4.0 per 1000 live births. Extrapolated to New Mexico’s population, that would indicate between 38 and 100 new cases per year in the state. CDC has published extensive information about cerebral palsy, including “Facts about Cerebral Palsy”, available at <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/cp/facts.html> and attached to this FIR. The attached information reiterates the importance of early diagnosis and treatment for the disorder.

Cerebral palsy is a chronic condition caused by damage to the developing brain, often before or during the birth process. It varies in severity, depending on the extent of damage to the brain and the parts of the brain affected. Some affected children have normal intelligence, some speak normally, and some have little movement impairment.

Cerebral palsy is described as a “static encephalopathy,” meaning brain damage that does not worsen with time, but remains stable, though manifestations of the disorder may become more evident as children become older. Although the brain damage causing cerebral palsy does not change or improve with age, many of the disabilities caused by cerebral palsy are susceptible to treatment, especially that begun early in a child’s life.

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