

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov) and may also be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/27/18

SPONSOR Rodriguez LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Domestic Violence Victim & Animals Temp Care SB 113

ANALYST Klundt

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|---------------|---------|------------------------------|------------------|
| FY18 | FY19 | | |
| | \$300.0 | Recurring | General Fund |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 113 (SB 113) appropriates \$300 thousand from the general fund to CYFD for expenditure in fiscal year 2019 to enhance the system of temporary care and housing of animals of victims of domestic violence. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2019 shall revert to the general fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB 113 appropriates \$300 thousand from the general fund to CYFD for expenditure in fiscal year 2019 to enhance the system of temporary care and housing of animals of victims of domestic violence. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2019 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

In FY15, CYFD received a special appropriation of \$50 thousand and in FY16 a recurring amount of \$50 thousand to contract with the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NMCADV) to develop and implement a program that provides temporary placement statewide for companion animals of victims of domestic violence who are going into shelter. The NMCADV is working with Animal Protection of New Mexico to establish foster homes

statewide which includes veterinary care and safe placement. Very few statewide domestic violence shelters have kennels for dogs and small animals or work with local animal shelters to house animals.

Abuse or threatened abuse of pets is a common power and control tactic used by abusers; 71 percent of pet owning women entering women's shelters reported that their batterer had injured, maimed, killed, or threatened family pets for revenge or to psychologically control victims (NCADV, AHA). Up to 65 percent of domestic violence victims are unable to escape their abusers because they are concerned about what will happen to their pets when they leave (Carlisle-Frank, Frank and Nielson, 2004). In review of literature, the American Humane Association reports that 68 percent of battered women reported violence occurred toward their animals and 87 percent of these incidents occurred in the presence of the women to psychologically control and coerce them. Pets may suffer unexplained injuries, health problems, permanent disabilities at the hands of abusers, or disappear from home.

KK/rl/al