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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Cisneros/Martinez **ORIGINAL DATE** 1/29/18
LAST UPDATED 2/5/18 **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE Rio Arriba & Taos Substance Use Treatment **SB** 152

ANALYST Esquibel

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY18	FY19		
	\$1,400.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Human Services Department (HSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 152 appropriates \$1.4 million from the general fund in FY19 and FY20 to the Human Services Department (HSD) to fund the establishment, implementation, data analysis and reporting pursuant to a demonstration project in Rio Arriba and Taos Counties that: (1) provides evidence-based, residential substance use disorder treatment of at least one year's duration for each participant with a substance use disorder; (2) tracks participants' ability to remain free of substance use after treatment; and (3) collects and analyzes county statistics on emergency department visits, crime and recidivism in Rio Arriba and Taos counties.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 152 would appropriate \$1.4 million from the general fund in FY19 and FY20 to the Human Services Department (HSD). Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY20 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Human Services Department (HSD) indicates SB152 would require establishment, implementation, and analysis of a demonstration project that provides evidence-based residential

substance use disorder treatment of at least one year's duration for each participant. While length of stay in residential treatment is an important factor in determining success, HSD is not aware of an evidence-based residential treatment protocol for substance abuse with a length of stay as long as would be required under SB152.

HSD reports a demonstration project of residential treatment for substance use disorder could be established to include evaluation of effects in New Mexico. However, SB152 does not indicate how many participants are needed for an effective evaluation of the project. It may be difficult to attract a cohort of an appropriate size for effective evaluation given the length of stay required. Tracking of participant success in remaining substance free will incur costs and staff time after the appropriation has expired. If the operation of the residential treatment services established through the demonstration project is intended to continue after 2020, additional appropriations would be needed or HSD would have to absorb the associated costs. It is unclear how the requirement for data collection and analysis of statistics on emergency department visits, crime and recidivism in Rio Arriba and Taos counties supports the analysis of individual residential treatment outcomes.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Human Services Department indicates SB152 would require additional work activity for HSD staff, and the department anticipates the need for an additional program manager to establish and oversee the components of the bill's proposed demonstration project.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Human Services Department's Behavioral Health Services Division received a \$1 million allocation beginning in FY16 for the establishment of Behavioral Health Investment Zones (BHIZ) in Rio Arriba and McKinley counties. A significant project in Rio Arriba and Taos counties such as the one outlined in SB 152 should be coordinated with BHIZ priorities and activities.

Rio Arriba County has hired three case managers and a hub manager dedicated to the Opiate Use Reduction (OUR) Network and trained to disperse Narcan. Rio Arriba County is working with the First Judicial District to develop a joint powers agreement (JPA) enabling systematic pre-trial diversion from district court into the OUR network targeting 180 frequent jail utilizers. Once the JPA is finalized, it will cover the cost of court monitoring and attendant GPS equipment, and stipulate that all individuals diverted into community corrections will be case managed through OUR Network.

RAE/sb/al