FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

	ORIGINAL DATE 3/7/19		
SPONSOR House Floor	**LAST UPDATED**	**HJM**	10/HFlS
SHORT TITLE Child Protective Services Task Force		**SB**	
		ANALYST	Klundt

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact		Recurring	General

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION
LFC Files

Responses Received From
Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Floor Substitute

House Joint Memorial 10 (HJM 10) requests the Children, Youth and Families Department to convene a child protective services task improve the safety and well-being of children in the care of the child protective services system by improving the relationship between the department and resource families, for better supporting resource families and for collaboratively working toward better recruitment and retention of resource families. HJM 10 requests the taskforce include the following participants in the task force:
A. the director of the children's cabinet;
B. the secretary of aging and long-term services;
C. two foster parents;
D. a guardian of a child;
E. two kinship caregivers;
F. a licensed medical physical health expert;
G. a licensed behavioral health expert;
H. an expert representative of law enforcement;
I. a classified children, youth and families department employee;
J. a family reintegration expert; and K. a children's court improvement commission representative; and invite other related participants.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

CYFD reported there will be fiscal costs associated with employee participation on the task force which CYFD may not be able to absorb with existing resources.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The task force is requested to:
A. Recommend the implementation in all protective services division offices and programs throughout the state of uniform and consistent policies and procedures, and a plan to implement those policies and procedures to ensure that resource families are appropriately supported, recruited and retained;
B. Recommend measures to ensure that all children, youth and families department rules are made easily available to every resource family, as well as all interested stakeholders and members of the general public;
C. Recommend measures to ensure that current rules and procedures support New Mexicans who devote themselves to being resource families and streamline the foster care system to reduce bureaucratic burdens on resource families;
D. Review training, support and ongoing opportunities to retain resource families, to study resource family retention and to determine desired and needed training topics and best sources of support;
E. Analyze family reintegration policies, procedures and practices and recommend safeguards to create safe and lasting reintegration of families;
F. Study the benefits of placement stability to avoid multiple, disruptive placements; and
G. Identify better ways to recruit, support and retain resources that resource families and children and family service providers need to support the state's most vulnerable population;

Recent data from the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) indicates in January 2019 of the 2,493 children in care, 1,413 were in the care of non-relatives, 501 were in the care of relatives, and 579 were categorized in the care of other. In additional CYFD reported 408 care providers were relative while 838 were non-relative care providers.

KK/al/sb