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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Tallman ORIGINAL DATE 1/29/19
 LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Child Advocacy Center Services SB 292

ANALYST Kludt

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20		
	\$3,000.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Senate Bill 292 (SB 292) appropriates \$3 million from the general fund to the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) for for sexual assault services to children through child advocacy centers.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$3 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY20 shall revert to the general fund.

CYFD currently receives \$2.4 million in general fund to allocate to Child Advocacy Centers statewide for forensic interviewing, MDT coordination & training, child and family advocacy, and mental and medical health services for children that have suffered physical, sexual and/or severe neglect by law enforcement or Child Protective Services (CPS).

In addition to state general funding, Crime Victim’s Reparation Commission allocates approximately \$2,500.0 annually in federal funding through Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA) to the Child Advocacy Centers.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

CYFD provides funding and programmatic oversight of 10 Child Advocacy Centers across the state since 2014. Every child in the state has access to a CAC in their region. The agency stated this funding would supplement the current funding and allow for more specialized sexual assault services to be provided at the Child Advocacy Centers, instead of the child having to go to multiple entities to receive medical evaluations or mental health services. The current funding from CYFD of \$2.4 million could be focused on physical abuse and severe neglect cases, where additional funding would support the expansion of sexual assault related services at each CAC.

During the first quarter of FY19, the CACs were referred a total of 590 cases with allegations of child sexual assault across the state of NM.

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