

LFC Requester:

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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO

AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov

(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 2/21/25

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HB534

Original Correction

Amendment Substitute

Agency Name

and Code

HCA 630

Number:

Sponsor: Rep. Torres-Velasquez

Person Writing

Rosalind Smith

Short Title: Autobiographical Storytelling

for Children

Phone: 505-470-8378

Email Rosalind.smith@hca.n

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: House Bill 534 (HB534) requires that Children, Youth, and Families (CYFD) contract with speech-language pathologists to provide training and workshops for families and case workers to help children in foster care develop language support and emotional development to share their stories.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None for the HCA.

(Medicaid reimburses for direct speech-language therapy services when medically necessary but does not cover general training for caregivers or caseworkers, as proposed under HB 534.)

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Each year, there are between 2,000 – 2,6000 children are in the foster care system in New Mexico.

[Statistics — New Mexico Child First Network](#)

Children who enter the foster care system are at increased risk for language delays, speech difficulty and early language development, due to adverse circumstances they may experience prior to adoption. These language and speech developmental delays greatly impact their communication skills.

Support provided by dedicated speech-language pathologists may help foster parents and caregivers to implement interventions that play a role in the prevention of delays or disorders in young foster children.

[Communication Challenges in Children Following an Adoption](#)

[Effect of Foster Care on Young Children's Language Learning - PMC](#)

[Interventions for foster care families \(Lorio et al., 2023\)](#)

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None for the HCA.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None

No IT impact.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None for the HCA.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None for the HCA.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None for the HCA.

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status

Quo

AMENDMENTS