

LFC Requester:	Klundt
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2023 REGULAR SESSION**

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Check all that apply:

Original **Amendment**
Correction **Substitute**

Date Prepared: 02/10/23
Bill No: HB355

Sponsor: Thompson
Short Title: DEV. DISABILITY
TRANSITIONAL

Agency Name and Code
Number: PED - 924
Person Writing Gregory Frostad
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
None	\$275.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24	FY25		
None	None	None	N/A	NFA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	NFA

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: House Bill 355 (HB355) would appropriate \$275,000 to the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division of the Department of Health (DOH) to contract with an organization that can provide workforce development services to people with developmental disabilities and develop pathways and support systems for students with transitional

individualized education programs who are graduating from high school.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill would appropriate \$275,000 from the general fund to the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division of DOH to contract with an organization that provides workforce development services to people with developmental disabilities and develops pathways and support systems for students with transitional individualized education programs who are graduating from high school. The bill would require that any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY24 to revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), a division of the Public Education Department (PED), provides the services that would be required by the provisions of the bill with a combination of state and federal funds, meaning HB355 may be duplicative of existing efforts DVR is required by law to provide guidance, counseling, and vocational education to disabled individuals, training for vocational education instructors, training material and equipment, and transportation. DVR provides the following services to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families:

- **Vocational Counseling and Guidance.** Vocational rehabilitation counseling and guidance includes information and support services to assist an individual in exercising informed choices and is distinct from the case management relationship that exists between the counselor and the individual during the VR process.
- **Job Search Assistance, Job Development, and Job Placement Assistance.** Job search activities support and assist an individual in searching for an appropriate job. Job search assistance may include help in resume preparation, identifying appropriate job opportunities, developing interview skills, and making contacts with companies on behalf of the participant. Job placement assistance is a referral to a specific job resulting in an interview, whether the individual obtained the job or not.
- **Pre-Employment Transition Services.** In July of 2014, the reauthorization of the federal Workforce Investment Act occurred (the new version of the act is called the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and includes many changes focused on students with disabilities). Under the new Act, the NMDVR program has added a new service category, Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS). The components associated with PETS and the agency both assist efforts with students' transition needs, such as job exploration counseling, work-based learning experiences, counseling on opportunities for enrollment in postsecondary education, workplace readiness training, instruction in self-advocacy, disability determination services, vocational rehabilitation technology, and employment training.
- **New Mexico Disability Determination Services (NMDDS).** NMDDS measures of quality consistently rank amongst the highest in the region and in the nation. The NMDDS adjudicates cases for Social Security disability benefits. The Social Security Administration (SSA) provides New Mexico millions of dollars annually for disability benefits. Nationally, the SSA contracts to provide disability determination services. In New Mexico, SSA contracts with the NMDVR to adjudicate cases for the residents of the state. SSA funds the NMDDS at 100 percent to include administrative overhead to the NMDVR. As a result of 100 percent funding, SSA maintains extensive control over the day-to-day.
- **Vocational Rehabilitation Technology.** This includes rehabilitation engineering services, assistive technology devices, and assistive technology services. These services

assist in meeting the needs of, and address the barriers confronted by, individuals with disabilities in areas that include education, rehabilitation, employment, transportation, independent living, recreation, home and vehicular modification, other assistive devices including, but not limited to hearing aids, low vision aids, and wheelchairs.

- **Training Services.** Training services are designed to help an individual improve educationally or vocationally or to adjust to the functional limitations of his or her impairment. Training services provided by DVR include (but not limited to): graduate college or university training, four-year college or university training, junior or community college training, occupational or vocational training, on-the-job training, apprenticeship training, disability related skills training, and miscellaneous training opportunities as requested or scheduled by the department.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

None.