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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR:	Sanchez	DATE TYPED:	2/9/00	HB	HJR 19
SHORT TITLE:	Broaden Vietnam Veterans' Scholarships			SB	
				ANALYST:	Lockwood

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY00	FY01	FY00	FY01		
		See Narrative			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Veterans Service Commission

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

HJR 19 proposes to amend the anti-donation clause of the constitution to expand the eligibility criteria for Vietnam veteran scholarships by allowing ten year residents of New Mexico to apply. The constitution now allows only veterans who were residents of New Mexico at the time they entered the armed forces to apply for scholarships. This proposal would be submitted to the voters at the next general election.

Significant Issues

The Veterans' Service Commission reports this bill may be designed to cure situations where a native New Mexican, who moved from New Mexico to another state and entered the armed forces, is now not eligible for a scholarship. However, veterans who have not lived in New Mexico for ten years would still be excluded. The issue of whether the ten years need to be consecutive or cumulative also needs to be addressed.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Veterans' Services Commission states it is unknown whether the scholarship fund is sufficient to handle an increase in applicants.

AL/prr:gm