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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Martinez DATE TYPED 2/01/04 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Open Ghost Ranch Piedra Lumbe Visitor Center SB SJM46

ANALYST Wilson

REVENUE

Estimated Revenue		Subsequent Years Impact	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05			
		See Narrative		

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 46 urges the United States Forest Service and the Ghost Ranch Educational and Retreat Center to conclude negotiations with the hope that those discussions successfully open the center.

Significant Issues

Ghost Ranch is a national educational and retreat center owned by the Presbyterian Church.

The closed Piedra Lumbe visitor center is located on United States Forest Service land adjacent to Ghost Ranch.

The United States Forest Service approached Ghost Ranch about operating the visitor center, and from those discussions a concept has evolved for a Ghost Ranch Piedra Lumbe visitor and education center.

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Such a center would encourage appreciation of northern New Mexico culture and traditions, provide environmental education in land management, ecology and water research, paleontology, geology and archaeology.

A visitor and education center would be financially viable with the support of Ghost Ranch and the United States Forest Service.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Ghost Ranch Piedra Lumbre visitor center will provide an economic stimulus by encouraging increased tourist activity and job development in Rio Arriba County.

DW/lg