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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE
LAST UPDATED 1/28/08 **HB** _____

SPONSOR Martinez, R.C.

SHORT TITLE Northern NM State Youth Sports Program **SB** 219

ANALYST Cox

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$30.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Higher Education – HED

Department of Public Education – PED

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 219 would help the Board of Regents of the Northern New Mexico state school (now known as Northern New Mexico College NNMC) re-establish the National Youth Sports Program, which serves youth ages 10 to 16 during the summer months with an academic and sports curriculum.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of Fiscal Year shall revert to the General Fund.

This request was not submitted by NNMC to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and is not included in the Department’s funding recommendation for FY09.

The HED’s evaluation table of FY09 Research and Public Service Projects provided to the LFC classifies this project as a “does not fit within HED priorities for Higher Education” project. Reasons for this classification decision are not provided. (LFC Report 07-20, Higher Education

Department Review of Selected Research and Public Service Projects, January 12, 2008, Table 4, p75.)

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED notes:

- Obesity has become a major public health issue in the United States with more than 9 million children and adolescents (17%) now considered overweight (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2007).
- Scientists have found that vigorous exercise can cause older nerve cells to form dense, interconnected webs that make the brain run faster and more efficiently. And there are clues that physical activity can stave off the beginnings of Alzheimer's disease, ADHD and other cognitive disorders. No matter your age, it seems, a strong, active body is crucial for building a strong, active mind (Carmichael, 2007).
- Increasing physical activity will increase levels of physical fitness and higher levels of physical fitness are associated with improved academic performance (Action for Healthy Kids, 2004).
- Fewer than 25% of American children get at least 30 minutes of any type of physical activity everyday (Action for Healthy Kids, 2003).

HED further notes:

The National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) annually provides approximately 75,000 economically disadvantaged youths, ages 10-16 years, with a unique opportunity to benefit from resources made available by local colleges and universities. In 2005, with a \$17,856,000 grant from the Office of Community Services (OCS) and two-thirds of the operating expenses paid for by other public and private sources, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and 202 selected institutions of higher education, the program completed its 37th year. Significant budget cuts came in 2006 with New Mexico programs serving 1,194 youths in 2005, compared to 515 youths in 2006.

NYSP is an instructional program for boys and girls from low-income households. The program uses sports instruction and competition as a vehicle to enhance self-esteem and respect. The program provides participants with instruction in career and educational opportunities and exposure to the college environment. Each participant receives a free medical examination and follow-up, if necessary and at least one free meal daily.

The program's objectives are to:

- Serve underserved youth between the ages of 10-16;
- Provide a healthy start through good nutrition and physical fitness;
- Teach youth-centered activities in a safe, positive and enjoyable college/university environment;
- Provide youth-centered activities that nurture the dreams and aspirations of youth;
- Promote respect, citizenship and sportsmanship in a diverse society; and
- Provide quality service and reward excellent performance.

PRC/mt