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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/13/13
 SPONSOR Pinto LAST UPDATED 02/15/13 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE Intertribal Indian Ceremony SB 493
 ANALYST Cerny

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY13	FY14		
\$0.0	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
 Indian Affairs Department (IAD)
 Tourism Department (TD)

No Response
 Intertribal Ceremonial Office

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 493 (SB 493) makes an appropriation of \$100 thousand from the general fund to the Tourism Department (TD) for expenditure in FY14 to promote the Inter-tribal Indian Ceremonial (“the Ceremonial”)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB 493 appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to the TD for the Ceremonial. LFC analysis considers this to be a recurring appropriation owing to the annual nature of the event and the history of requests for such funding in the past.

The general fund appropriation to the Ceremonial grew from \$30 thousand to \$105 thousand from fiscal year 2012 to fiscal year 2013, respectively.

This bill would be in addition to an appropriation of \$105 thousand requested by the TD pursuant

to The General Appropriation Act of 2012 to promote the Ceremonial. Both the LFC and Executive appropriation recommendation for 2013 include this amount. Enacting this bill could increase the total funding made to the Ceremonial to \$205,000.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) currently exists between the TD and McKinley County “to ensure the proper administration of the Ceremonial and to establish roles of the Tourism Department and McKinley County with regard to the Ceremonial.”

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Ceremonial is a five-day event held each August in Gallup to celebrate Native American heritage and exhibit the cultures, dances, traditions, foods, artistic talents and athletic abilities of Native Americans. The Ceremonial started in 1922, when members of the Navajo Nation, the Pueblo of Zuni and other pueblos marched through downtown Gallup in ceremonial celebration. The Ceremonial continues to feature parades, including a ceremonial parade that pays tribute to the Navajo Long Walk, in which thousands of Navajo men, women and children during the mid-1800s were forced to relocate, by foot, from their ancestral lands in what is now eastern Arizona and western New Mexico to Fort Sumner in eastern New Mexico. The Ceremonial presents an opportunity for numerous tribes to come together and celebrate their culture. The Ceremonial features a rodeo and a three-day competition in which Native American women residing within a three-hundred-mile radius of Gallup compete for the title of "Miss Gallup Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial." The indoor-outdoor marketplace at the Ceremonial exhibits some of the finest traditional and contemporary art by Native American artisans. The Ceremonial is recognized worldwide as an important tradition and attended by people from many regions of the world.

The position of the TD is that the current level of funding pursuant to the General Appropriations Act of 2013 is sufficient to support the Ceremonial and an additional appropriation of \$100 thousand is unnecessary.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Pursuant to the performance measures for the Intertribal Ceremonial Office, which is administratively attached to the TD (NMSA 1978, 9-15C-3(A)), the performance of the Ceremonial is partly evaluated by the “percent of operation revenue from sources other than the General Fund.” Additional funding will therefore negatively impact the performance of the Intertribal Ceremonial Office by increasing the percentage of operating revenue afforded by the General Fund.

The TD works cooperatively with the IAD on matters related to Indian tribes. The IAD would be hopeful to assist the Tourism Department wherever needed in this endeavor.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

During the 2012 Regular Session, SM 62 was passed recognizing the importance of the event. This year’s 92nd Ceremonial will take place August 7-11, 2013, in Gallup, New Mexico. The event currently uses the TD’s “New Mexico True” program to promote the event and the city of Gallup. The event brings many visitors in, from out of state and out of country, and has the potential to produce much-needed revenue for the State of New Mexico.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

According to the IAD, if the Ceremonial were not to receive an appropriation, it would possibly have to scale back the size of the annual event.

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