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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Campos ORIGINAL DATE 02/11/16
 LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Repurpose Buildings as Frank Springer Gallery SM 26

ANALYST Hanika Ortiz

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY16	FY17	FY18	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		See fiscal impact				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Responses Received

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 26 requests that New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) and the Higher Education Department (HED) repurpose the media arts east and west buildings that are soon to be vacated in Las Vegas, New Mexico, as the Frank W. Springer Art Gallery.

The memorial contemplates the following:

- Frank W. Springer, who lived from 1848 to 1927, came to New Mexico in 1873; successfully defended the Maxwell land grant company's claims to more than two million acres in New Mexico and Colorado; and the town of Springer is named after him;
- Mr. Springer was instrumental in the establishment of the New Mexico normal university in Las Vegas, New Mexico, now known as NMHU;
- in 1919, the board of regents of New Mexico normal university rename the college's main building "Springer hall" in recognition of Mr. Springer's efforts;
- Springer hall was later destroyed by fire and the Springer name vanished from the NMHU campus;
- in 1915, Mr. Springer lobbied the New Mexico legislature to appropriate funds to build Saint Francis auditorium in Santa Fe and commissioned two murals in that auditorium;

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- Mr. Springer supported artistic endeavors and served on the boards of the School of American archaeology and the Museum of New Mexico, and supported the development of Santa Fe's distinctly revised architectural style;
- The NMHU media arts program will be moving into the trolley barn in Las Vegas in the fall of 2016 and will be vacating the buildings known as media arts east and west; and
- the vacated buildings should be repurposed as the Frank W. Springer art gallery.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SM 26 proposes a venue for the security, preservation, display and study of New Mexico Highland University foundation's collection of over 2,500 donated pieces with an appraised value of about four million dollars (\$4,000,000); expand the foundation's permanent collection; and establish collaborative efforts with other New Mexico museums and art communities.

The memorial does not identify a funding mechanism to repurpose the buildings; however, the memorial states Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) has expressed support of this proposal.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The memorial seeks to recognize the role of Frank W. Springer in the establishment of NMHU and New Mexico Art Museum; strengthen NMHU's fine arts programs; and by creating a gallery recognize NMHU's artists Elmer Schooley, Ray Drew, Paul Volckening and Harry Leippe.

NMHU and HED are being requested to help repurpose certain buildings soon to be vacated.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The memorial states the descendants of Frank W. Springer also support this proposal.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Copies of the memorial will be transmitted to the president and the board of regents of NMHU, the secretary of the HED, the president of the NMHU foundation, and the secretary of DCA.

AHO/jle