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LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS
54th Legislature, 1st Session, 2019

Bill Number	<u>SB284</u>	Sponsor	<u>Candelaria</u>
Tracking Number	<u>.212245.1</u>	Committee Referrals	<u>SEC/SFC</u>
Short Title	<u>UNM Law School High School Mock Trial Program</u>		
Analyst	<u>Sena</u>	Original Date	<u>1/29/19</u>
		Last Updated	<u></u>

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 284 (SB284) appropriates \$150 thousand to the board of regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) to provide support for high school mock trial programs.

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill appropriates \$150 thousand from the general fund to UNM for expenditure in FY20. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY20 shall revert to the general fund.

SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

New Mexico's high school mock trial program is in its 41st year and is sanctioned by the New Mexico Activities Association. About 450 students from around New Mexico participate in the annual state competition, according to the Center for Civic Values (CCV), which organizes the event.

Funding is used to support teams traveling to the state competition. The program has not received any state funding since FY17 and has had to rely on other contributions and reserve funding, which is nearly depleted, according to CCV.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

UNM would serve as fiscal agent for the program.

CONSEQUENCE OF NOT ENACTING THE BILL

Funding for mock trial has been vetoed in recent years, leaving the program to rely on other contributions. Without state funding, the program may not be able to support as many schools or students.

RELATED BILLS

- HB392, Duplicate Bill

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- LESC Files

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