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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**ORIGINAL DATE** 02/08/19

**SPONSOR** Griggs/Fulfer      **LAST UPDATED** \_\_\_\_\_      **HB** \_\_\_\_\_

**SHORT TITLE** Engineering & Surveying Scholarship & License      **SB** 447

**ANALYST** Montoya

### REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20	FY21		
NFI	\$0.00-\$10.0 *See Fiscal Implications	\$0.00-\$10.0 *See Fiscal Implications	Recurring	Other Revenues

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Revenue Decreases)

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	NFI	(\$100.0)	(\$100.0)		Recurring	Fund Balance

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors (BLPEPS)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 447 establishes an education scholarship program for engineering and surveying to enhance recruitment and retention utilizing the fund balance from the New Mexico Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors. The bill also allows for an additional comity licensure pathway for an engineer who has been licensed in the District of Columbia, another state, a territory or a possession of the United States, for 10 contiguous years, has not received any disciplinary action within five years of applying to the State of New Mexico, and has not had the engineer's license suspended or revoked at any time from any jurisdiction. The path allows entry into New Mexico by those that may not meet a particular requirement of the current Act but have otherwise proven themselves reliable as professional registrants. Senate Bill 447 reduces the required years of experience from four years to two

years for Surveyor Intern certification for applicants with a related science degree.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The additional licensure pathway may increase the number of applications received by professional engineers from other jurisdictions applying for a New Mexico professional engineering license. This is estimated to increase revenue up to \$10.0 thousand.

The scholarship program will utilize \$100.0 thousand of the BLPEPS fund balance.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

BLPEPS reports that with the enactment of this bill it will no longer have to deny comity to those professional engineers seeking entry into the New Mexico market who are missing a particular element for licensure but have proven their ability to maintain a safe work practice through a monitored professional career history.

BLPEPS creates revenue through licensing fees collected from engineers and surveyors and maintains a large fund balance. This fund balance would be utilized to create a scholarship program to promote engineering and surveying in the state of New Mexico. If enacted, the fund balance would be authorized in the budget of BLPEPS. The budget included in HB333 and SB254 authorizes the transfer of \$100.0 thousand for the scholarship program for FY20.

AM/sb