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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/12/2020

SPONSOR Chatfield LAST UPDATED _____ HB 353

SHORT TITLE NMSU Agricultural Centers SB _____

ANALYST Hawker

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY20	FY21		
	\$200.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico State University (NMSU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 353 appropriates \$200 thousand from the general fund to New Mexico State University (NMSU) for the purpose of operating and maintaining agricultural centers in New Mexico.

There is no effective date of this bill. It is assumed that the effective date is 90 days following adjournment of the Legislature.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) is the primary research unit of NMSU's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental sciences. AES supports science and research in the economic, social and cultural aspects of agriculture, natural resource management and family issues. The AES system has centers in Alcalde, Artesia, Clayton, Clovis, Corona, Farmington,

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Las Cruces, Los Lunas, Mora and Tucumcari. The \$200 thousand expansion request will help maintain these centers. A 2012 study conducted by NMSU estimated repair costs at six of the centers at over \$12 million. The unstudied centers have similar facility needs as the studied facilities.

The AES operating budget for the maintenance of the agricultural centers is \$438.8 thousand, this includes a \$314.8 thousand increase appropriated by the Legislature beginning in fiscal year 2020.

VKH/sb