

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the Legislature. LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Hemphill LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/1/23
BILL
SHORT TITLE National History Day Program Schools NUMBER Senate Bill 270
ANALYST Dick-Peddie

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
\$0.00	\$200.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Cultural Affairs Department (DCA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 270

Senate Bill 270 appropriates \$200 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Cultural Affairs for the purpose of participating in National History Day.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect June 16, 2023, (90 days after the Legislature adjourns) if signed into law.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY24 shall revert to the general fund.

The Department of Cultural Affairs currently has \$50 thousand in its recurring operating budget for New Mexico history day but no existing funding for National History Day. The department reports it would not have any additional operating costs because the Library Division has managed funding for programs such as this one in previous years.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DCA notes National History Day is a year-long program focused on historical research, interpretation, and creative expression for sixth- to 12th-grade students. The program supports academic achievement and intellectual growth because students acquire historical knowledge while developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills. The program leads up to a national competition, in which middle and high school students present their original research on historical topics of interest. The New Mexico Humanities Council (NMHC) is the designated coordinator of National History Day for New Mexico. In previous years, more than 4,500 New Mexican students from 39 schools have participated. Participating schools have come from Bernalillo, Chaves, Doña Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Los Alamos, Luna, McKinley, Otero, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, San Juan, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Torrance, and Valencia counties. New Mexico's regional contests have been held in Farmington, Las Cruces, and Albuquerque. Regional winners compete in the state finals in Albuquerque. The top two finishers in each category at the state contest become eligible to advance to the National History Day competition held in College Park, Maryland.

ADP/al/hg