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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ferrary/Parajón/Ortez/Cates **LAST UPDATED** _____
ORIGINAL DATE 2/24/2025
SHORT TITLE Pollinator Research **BILL** _____
NUMBER House Bill 459
ANALYST Jorgensen

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

FY25	FY26	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$1,500.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency Analysis Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 459

House Bill 459 (HB459) appropriates \$1.5 million from the general fund to the Higher Education Department (HED) for a program to be housed at the Institute of American Indian Arts to research pollinator habitat and conservation. HB459 authorizes the funding to be spent between FY26 and FY28 and allows up to \$150 thousand of the appropriation to be spent for indirect costs to administer the program.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns if enacted, or June 20, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1.5 million contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY28 shall revert to the general fund. Although this bill does not specify future appropriations, multiyear appropriations create an expectation the program will continue in future fiscal years; therefore, this cost could become recurring after the funding period.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HED reports:

HB459 does not address the role of the New Mexico Beekeepers Association should or could have in the research into and education and outreach about pollinators to support a healthy habitat and conservation of pollinators. The New Mexico Beekeepers Association was part of the working group established in HM33 of the 2024 regular legislative session.

CJ/hj