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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Nunez DATE TYPED: 01/31/01 HB 407
 SHORT TITLE: NMSU Viticulturist SB _____
 ANALYST: Gilbert

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
	\$ 100.0			Recurring	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Senate Bill 178

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
 New Mexico Commission for Higher Education (CHE)
 CHE Fund Appropriation Matrix FY02

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 407 appropriates \$100.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for a viticulturist in the of the College of Agriculture and Home Economics.

Significant Issues

This bill adds a viticulturist FTE to the cooperative extension service which will provide technical services to New Mexico's vineyards and wine industry.

All New Mexico higher educational institutions were asked to provide the Commission for Higher Education (CHE) with an overall priority listing of all new and expansion research and public service project requests. According to the CHE, NMSU provided a categorical priority list to the CHE, but did not include a request for a viticulturist. NMSU also did not receive formal approval from their governing board for this funding.

The CHE did not recommend funding a viticulturist for NMSU.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

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The \$100.0 appropriation contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY02 shall revert to the general fund.

AMENDMENTS

The CHE suggests the following language for all new recurring higher education programs and expansion of current programs (assuming that funding will continue beyond 2001-2002):

“The institution receiving the appropriation in this bill shall submit a program evaluation to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Commission on Higher Education by August 2, 2004 detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having this program implemented for a three-year period.”

LG/ar