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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



SPONSOR: Nunez DATE TYPED: 01/29/02 HB 96

SHORT TITLE: Collegiate Curricula Adjustments SB _____

ANALYST: Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
	\$500.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 69, SB 74, HB 27 and HB 48

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education (SDE)
 Commission on Higher Education (CHE)
 LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 96 appropriates \$500.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) to foster achievement in math and science in border region public school students through collegiate curricula adjustments and systematic change in math science education in the public schools.

Significant Issues

According to the SDE analysis, the bill addresses the need to examine collegiate curricula to foster student achievement, specifically in math and science, and makes adjustments to ensure that instruction effectively engages students living in the border region. The need for this bill is evidenced by the low student performance on the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP) Tests.

According to the CHE, NMSU submitted a proposal to the Commission in the amount of \$400,000, which would establish the New Mexico Border Initiative (NMBI) at NMSU. The proposal indicated that the NMBI would utilize expertise at the university level in order to foster

achievement through collegiate curriculum adjustments, and through faculty and student participation in support of systemic change in math/science education within the public school systems. University students will serve as mentors, tutors, and will also provide technical assistance. NMSU faculty would be encouraged to devise hands-on experiences in science and engineering for use by the schools in the border area.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY2003 shall revert to the general fund.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The following is provided for information only. It is not intended as a commentary on the merits of the program:

This proposal was ranked 2nd out of 7 research and public service new or expansion items, submitted to the CHE by NMSU University. However, the Commission did not recommend this program for expansion.

RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 96 relates to:

House Bill 48, Border Region Science and Math Education
House Bill 27, Education Reforms
Senate Bill 69, Gadsden Year-round and Intersession Education
Senate Bill 74, Border Region Math and Science Education

LB/ar