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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR	Garcia, M.H.	DATE TYPED	01/30/04 HB	57/aHEC
SHORT TITLE	NM Alliance for M	Inority Participation	SB	
			ANALYST	Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring	Fund
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05	or Non-Rec	Affected
	\$250.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Duplicates SB 94

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Commission on Higher Education (CHE) Funding recommendations for FY05

Responses Received From

CHE

New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HEC Amendment

The House Education Committee Amendment adds a program evaluation requirement that reads as follows:

"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 2007 detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having implemented this program over a three period."

House Bill 57/aHEC -- Page 2

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 57 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) to provide a state match for two ongoing National Science foundation (NSF) grants to NMSU. One grant encourages undergraduate students from underrepresented minorities to complete bachelor's degrees in science, math, engineering and technology. The second grant is to encourage student with disabilities to complete bachelor's degrees in science, math, engineering and technology and participate in public school outreach activities.

Significant Issues

A request to increase funding for this program by \$250 thousand was presented to the NMSU Board of Regents. The regents approved the request and ranked it number 4 among the 9 priority items recommended to the CHE for FY05 funding. The CHE, however, did not recommend the increase.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY05 shall revert to the general fund.

DUPLICATION

SB 94 duplicates HB 57.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

In its analysis, the PED states that, in addition to the opportunities offered students from underrepresented minorities, the state and federal funds for this program will impact the quality of special education K-12 programs by providing stipends for undergraduate students with disabilities from all six universities to complete degree working in a science or math field while providing assistance to public school special education teachers who have responsibilities for math and science instruction. In addition, funding will be provided for experts to conduct workshops for special education teachers, parents and high school counselors on what is necessary for students with disabilities to be admitted to and be successful in a four-year bachelor's program in science or math.

AMENDMENTS

The following language is suggested for all new recurring higher education programs and expansion of current programs (assuming that funding will continue beyond FY05):

"The institution receiving the appropriation in this bill shall submit a program evaluation to the Legislative Finance Committee, the Public Education Department and the Commission on Higher Education by August 2007 detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having implemented this program over a three period."

RLG/yr:dm