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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Kidd DATE TYPED 2/9/04 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Tatum School District Horse Riding Lessons SB 525

ANALYST Baca

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	\$10.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 525 appropriates \$10 thousand from the general fund to the PED to contract for therapeutic horseback riding lessons for individuals with disabilities or special needs.

#### Significant Issues

According to the PED, current state statutes and state rules allow a licensed recreation therapist to provide therapeutic horse back riding lessons for students with disabilities if that therapy is required by their individualized education program. The full time equivalency for this licensed therapist can be reimbursed through the state equalization guarantee (SEG). The funding for this therapist would flow to the district the following year, since all funding through the SEG is based on prior year data. If this appropriation is needed to support a therapeutic program only in the start-up year, it may be warranted. Otherwise, it appears to duplicate current statute and rules.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$10 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.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The PED suggests that in line 19, the words “or special needs” be deleted and the language aligned current state statute, which provides for program units for related service ancillary to special education only to students with disabilities.

**LB/dm**