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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Taylor, J.G.      DATE TYPED 2/5/04      HB 389

SHORT TITLE Courses at UNM Regional Studies Center      SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Baca

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	\$500.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Commission on Higher Education funding Recommendations for FY05 (CHE)

### Responses Received From

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 389 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico for the Center for Regional Studies for support, curriculum development, research and instruction for courses related to New Mexico and the American southwest.

#### Significant Issues

The need for quality materials to accompany curricula on New Mexico and the Southwest that is based on quality research had long been acknowledged. This bill proposes to begin to address that need. It is unclear, however, whether the activities proposed address the need in public schools or post-secondary institutions - or both.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 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.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

This request was not among those submitted for FY05 funding by the UNM Board of Regents to the CHE. Consequently, the Commission did not review this request.

To foster and ensure accountability, the institution receiving the appropriation in this bill should submit a program evaluation to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Commission on Higher Education by a date to be determined by the Commission detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having implemented this program.

**LB/njw**