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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Heaton DATE TYPED 02/05/04 HB 436

SHORT TITLE National Cave and Karst Research Institute SB _____

ANALYST Williams

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	No Fiscal Impact				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to research and public service project funding in the General Appropriation Act at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology; HAFC substitute for HB2 includes \$321.9 thousand recurring general fund appropriation for FY05.

REVENUE

Estimated Revenue		Subsequent Years Impact	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05			
		See Narrative	Recurring	OSF/NMIMT

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Response Received

Commission on Higher Education

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 436 provides statutory authorization for the Cave and Karst Research Institute as a division of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. The Institute is charged with

furthering speleology, centralizing related information, promoting interdisciplinary cooperation and public education, encouraging national and international cooperating in protecting the environment and promoting and developing sustainable resource management practices. The bill authorizes the Institute to collect fees from the sale of reports.

Significant Issues

The Governor's budget recommendation includes a 15 percent reduction in non-statutory research and public service projects at public, post-secondary institutions. This Institute currently exists as a non-statutory entity, and therefore is subject to proposed fiscal reductions based on this methodology.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill does not include an appropriation, but includes an earmarked revenue source because authorized fees would be retained by New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.

ALTERNATIVES

Indirect cost revenues could be used as an alternative funding source.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

1. What measures would be used to address performance outcomes of the Institute?

AW/njw:lg