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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Stewart DATE TYPED: 2-16-04 HB HJM-08

SHORT TITLE: Study Virtual Anatomy Instead of Dissection SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST: Segura

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC files

Response Received From

New Mexico Department of Public Education (PED)

### SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 8 requests that the PED study the use of virtual anatomy as an acceptable alternative method of study to dissection, and the study ensure that academic class requirements requiring animal dissection be fulfilled through virtual anatomy alternatives.

Significant Issues

The PED reports that statutory requirements for graduation and state standards for science classes do not stipulate that dissection must be use in any class. Rather, that determination is left to the teacher. Traditionally, however, dissection of animals has been used to provide student to have first hand experiences with the body part of various animals. Whatever method is used must allow the student to learn about scientific investigations and the most appropriate processes for the conduct of such investigations. As new technologies become available, schools and classroom teachers must determine which methods are most appropriate for effective student learning within the bounds acceptable to school and community.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

In its analysis, the PED states it can fulfill the requirements of this memorial and will do so by working with school personnel and profession organizations.

**RS/lg**