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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Moore DATE TYPED 1/24/05 HB 46

SHORT TITLE Museum Development Program SB _____

ANALYST Hadwiger

APPROPRIATION (in \$000s)

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$200.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Cultural Affairs Department
New Mexico Humanities Council

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 46 appropriates \$200 thousand from the general fund in FY06 to the Cultural Affairs Department for programs to expand the programmatic capacity of and training available in smaller and rural museums and to add a state-specific component to federally funded humanities programs addressing national and worldwide issues.

Significant Issues

According to the Cultural Affairs Department (DCA), the rural museum program (RMP) began in 2001 as a joint project of the Museum of New Mexico system and the New Mexico Association of Museums. The program is the only one of its kind in the state, promoting the management of historical collections regardless of institutional size or geographic location and provides coordinated access to information, consultation, professional support, training and funding opportunities. DCA further indicates that, over the last three years, the program has delivered di-

rect services to 13 museums located in San Juan, Eddy, Union, Cibola, Dona Ana, Grant, Otero, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Luna, Lea and Quay counties. In addition, staff training has been provided to more than 90 museums across the state. Services provided thus far have included: preservation plans to address collections; facilities improvements; professional development for staff and boards; security plans; on-site visits; and professional consultation. While the Museum Services Division provides office space, supplies and meeting space, there is currently little programmatic funding.

According to the New Mexico Humanities Council (NMHC), roughly two-thirds of the proposed funding would be used for grants to assist New Mexico communities to profile their local histories and present them to public audiences. While funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities are used to fund humanities programs that address national and international themes, there has been little funding for New Mexico state specific and local topics. This project is timed to provide programs in time for the celebration of the New Mexico centennial. Through the current NMHC grant review process, applicants would compete for funds which are "New Mexico specific." Federal funds would continue to support requests on national and international themes and the state funds would be used for New Mexico state-specific and local programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 would revert to the general fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to DCA, HB46 will have administrative and staffing implications for the museum services division, which would request a portion of the funding for administrative costs.

DH/lg