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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Nava DATE TYPED 02/03/05 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Civic Engagement Educational Web Sites SB 305

ANALYST Chabot

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$300.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 304

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

General Services Department (GSD)  
Office of Information Technology Management (OITM)  
Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 305 appropriates \$300 thousand from the general fund to PED for expenditure in 2006 and subsequent years for the purpose of continued development of the joint partnership of New Mexico State University and the University of New Mexico for developing the civic engagement web site and 25 community or school civic engagement sites. The bill contains an emergency clause.

#### Significant Issues

According to OITM, this program was started three years ago from a grant from the Pew Charitable Trust, and the program establishes training and curriculum materials for civics teachers, students, and the general population. The appropriation is to maintain the website ([www.nmce.org](http://www.nmce.org)).

PED states the New Mexico Civic Engagement (NMCE) initiative promotes active citizenship through unique partnership between youths, adult sponsors, communities, schools and universities, elected officials and citizens. NMCE seeks to capitalize on cultural and regional diversity to enrich New Mexico's public and community life. The site is operated by more than 30 schools and communities,

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$300 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2006 shall not revert.

The LFC FY06 appropriation recommendation is balanced between revenues and expenditures and any increase in recurring funding must be offset by reductions in other areas of the recommendation. The Legislature must consider all priorities and funding requirements to find revenue to support this legislation.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

PED will have to assign staff to write a joint powers agreement with one of the designated partners to manage the sites. PED's estimated cost is \$3.2 thousand.

### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

This bill has an emergency clause; however, it specifies the appropriation is for fiscal year 2006 which negates the need for the emergency clause.

PED recommends inserting the following sentence after the word "sites." in Line 23: The work of this partnership should align with the New Mexico social studies content standards, benchmarks and performance standards.

### **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL?**

Funding will end to maintain the website.

### **POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

1. Why does the bill have an emergency clause?
2. Are other funding sources available?

**GAC/lg**