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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Robinson DATE TYPED 03/01/05 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Tourism & Cultural Exchanges with India SB 957

ANALYST Ford

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$100.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Tourism Department (NMTD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 957 appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to the NMTD for the purpose of fostering tourism and cultural exchanges with India.

Significant Issues

NMTD indicates it has an international marketing program in place which can take advantage of the opportunity that India presents as an emerging market for tourism. NMTD notes that the Travel Industry Association of America, in its 2004 edition of "Emerging International Tourism Markets: Trends and Insights," points to India as one of the top four emerging nations in the world in regard to international tourism and the ability and desire of its citizens to travel beyond Asian destinations, thus benefiting the United States, a long-haul destination.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 06 shall revert to

the general fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

NMTD will incur administrative costs to develop the program necessary to foster tourism and cultural exchanges with India. However, it indicates that it has existing international programs which may minimize the administrative effort required to develop a new program.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The bill does not provide any detail as to what kind of activity NMTD should undertake, nor does it provide for any performance measures that would allow the legislature to easily evaluate the impact of this appropriation.

EF/lg