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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Swisstack DATE TYPED 2/08/05 HB 465

SHORT TITLE Albuquerque Science and Engineering Fair SB _____

ANALYST Hadwiger

APPROPRIATION (in \$000s)

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

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 465 appropriates \$300,000 from the general fund to the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) for a science and engineering fair in the city of Albuquerque.

Significant Issues

According to the Public Education Department (PED), HB465 supports the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, to be held in Albuquerque in 2007. The international fair is expected to bring 1,400 students from 38 countries to compete for over \$3,000,000 in scholarships and prizes. PED noted that science fairs have served students, teachers and parents in New Mexico since 1959. Because of strong regional and statewide support for science fairs, Albuquerque has been chosen to host the 2007 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. This effort received support from community and business leaders, parents and teachers and the State. This fair contributes to improving the quality of science education, increasing male, female and minority student interest in science, providing recognition for achievement and performance in science by students and teachers and showcasing New Mexico's research and development organization.

By means of background (from PED), students compete in a series of fairs, beginning with local fairs held in individual schools, to qualify for participation in the international fair. The 2004 Northwest New Mexico (NWNM) Regional Science and Engineering Fair, held at the University of New Mexico, hosted 870 students competing with 816 projects. The NWNM fair qualifies approximately 180 projects to compete in the New Mexico State Science and Engineering Fair held at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. Sixteen finalists from the regional and state fairs went on to compete in the 2004 International Science and Engineering Fair in Portland, Oregon. Fourteen New Mexico finalists received a total of \$114,000 in bonds, scholarships, trips and cash awards at the international fair.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300,000 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 would revert to the general fund.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The International Science and Engineering Fair will occur in 2007. Although the state is required to identify substantial funding in 2006, it may be advisable to have this appropriation revert at the end of FY07 in the event that all funds are not spent by June 30, 2006.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

According to DFA, the estimated fiscal benefit to the state would include 10,000 room nights, an economic impact of \$8-10 million and attract over 5,000 people to New Mexico from forty different countries, as well as provide educational benefits for New Mexico students and educational institutions.

DH/sb/njw