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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/2/06

SPONSOR Ezzell LAST UPDATED _____ HB 573

SHORT TITLE Dexter & Hagerman-Area Distance Learning SB _____

ANALYST Aguilar

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$250.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 572 and SB 481

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 573 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the public education department for the purpose of implementing regional education cooperative #7 distance learning model in the Dexter, Hagerman, Lake Arthur and Loving school districts.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250 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 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED notes distance learning has been identified as a crucial element to the survival of rural schools. Without the means to deliver a complete range of courses, students encounter significant obstacles to pursuing curriculum that implements recommendations of the High School Initiative and Math/Science Town Halls

The Higher Education Department note the proposed recurring budget for the distance learning

technologies model includes training twenty-five teachers representing the four districts, training consultant, and a distance education coordinator to provide training and support. The implementation of the curriculum will require textbooks, materials and supplies. The students will also have the opportunity to receive funding for travel associated with hybrid course delivery and concurrent and advanced placement tuition costs.

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