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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/26/2007

SPONSOR Salazar LAST UPDATED _____ HB 276

SHORT TITLE Health Cooperative Extension Services SB _____

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$200.0	Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 327 and SB 2.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

University of New Mexico/New Mexico State University
 Department of Health (DOH)
 Health Policy Commission (HPC)
 Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 276 appropriates \$200,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for expenditure in FY 2008 to develop, in conjunction with the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (HSC), a comprehensive joint plan for a sustainable health cooperative extension rural office system to serve ten rural county extension offices, in collaboration with community partners, to address local health priorities.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200,000 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

According to HED, the appropriation would be used to complete a feasibility study for the implementation of Health Extension Rural Offices (HERO). Ten thousand dollars will be distributed to each of ten communities for travel, staff, and facilitators to identify gaps in health care services. Another \$50,000 will be distributed each university for their on-campus Health Care Alliance Offices to fund associated staff and travel needs.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

New Mexico State University, in conjunction with UNM, seeks funding to study the feasibility of developing ten HEROs to serve rural counties in New Mexico. The UNM/NMSU analysis includes a number of goals associated with this initiative: (1) connecting university resources and programs to support community need and extend health knowledge; (2) promoting self-responsibility of individual health including preventive health behaviors; (3) responding to health personnel recruitment and retention needs of rural and underserved communities; (4) advocating for and assisting rural communities in identifying and conveying their recommendations for health policies; and creating/implementing community economic and health-related development programs.

This request was not on the list of priority projects submitted by NMSU to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and was not included in the Departments funding recommendations for FY08.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Higher Education Department Analysis

HB276 does not indicate performance measures. Proposed evaluation criteria from UNM HSC include the development of a Community Report Card for each CHEO, a process evaluation tool to measure local community awareness and satisfaction as well as additional quantitative and qualitative outcome data on health professional recruitment and access information.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 276 (Health Cooperative Extension Services) and SB 327 (Health Cooperative Extension Offices) are duplicates, except for titles.

Senate Bill 2 appropriates \$11,012.8 to New Mexico State University for Cooperative Extension Services.

BM/nt