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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/1/2007

SPONSOR Stewart LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 311

SHORT TITLE Expand UNM Sustainabilities Studies Program SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST McOlash

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$307.6	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 269.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD)

New Mexico Economics Development (NMED)

Higher Education Department (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 311 appropriates \$307,582 from the General Fund to the Regents of UNM for expenditure in FY 2008 to fund expansion of the Sustainability Studies Program.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$307,582 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

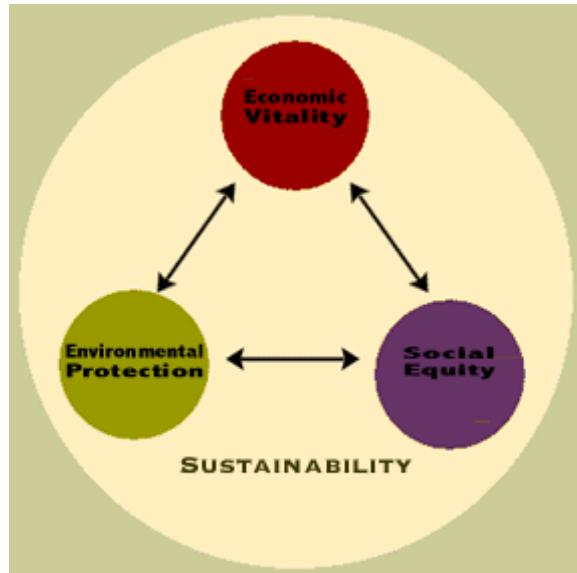
The UNM request included:

Personnel (Recurring)	\$281,929
Expenses (Non-Recurring)	<u>25,653</u>
TOTAL	\$307,582

The “Expenses” are not specified and would appear to be more appropriately categorized as recurring.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

Sustainability Studies at UNM provides a multidisciplinary minor degree to train students in the critical areas of clean energy, non-polluting transportation, local pure food production, green building and design, and systems thinking.



Sustainability Studies addresses problems associated with climate change, carbon emissions, acid rain, nuclearism, energy dependency, resource depletion, neoliberalism, poverty, ecosystem collapse and war, with solutions that are equally accessible to all. Sustainability Studies includes research and develop technologies AND decision making processes that not only meet the needs, but also include the interests of all communities, while protecting our environment and fostering economic vitality for all.

This proposal was submitted by UNM to HED, but was not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY08.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

House Bill 311 is related to HB 269: (Enacting the Sustainable Development Testing Site Act) in that it could provide a research venue for faculty and/or students enrolled in the Sustainability Studies Program.

BM/nt