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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/27/2007

SPONSOR Nava LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE NMSU Pre-Freshmen Engineering Program SB 32

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$250.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to House Bill 147.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico State University – College of Engineering (NMSU-COE)

Public Education Department (PED)

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 32 appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of NMSU for expenditure in FY 2008 to support the Pre-Freshmen Engineering Program (PREP) to enhance recruitment and retention of freshmen engineering students.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250,000 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.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Since 1997, the NMSU PREP program has provided an intensive mathematics-based pre-college summer program that provides educational enrichment for approximately 200 middle and high school students. Participants learn logic, algebraic structures, physics and technical writing and participate in field trips that provide an opportunity for hands-on learning. This program seeks to stimulate interest of underrepresented students in the field of science, engineering and mathematics.

New Mexico State University submitted a request for \$250,000 in its base budget request to the HED. The Department recommended continued funding of \$28,500 in its funding recommendation for FY08.

This bill is a Special Projects Expansion. It was originally appropriated (\$28,500) during the 2005 session as SB190 (Laws 2005, Ch. 34). The \$28,500 was continued in the 2006 session via HB2 (Laws 2006, Ch. 109), which continues the expansion through FY07.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 32 does not indicate performance measures. Per the 2005 PREP Annual Report, accountability is evaluated using a follow-up survey that measures the number of students who successfully complete PREP and go on to major in science, engineering and/or mathematics. The survey also tracks the percent of members that are women and/or are from underrepresented minority group.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP OR RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 147 appropriates \$200,000 for a similar program at the University of New Mexico.

BM/sb