

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/2/07

SPONSOR Garcia, M.J. LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE NMSU Virtual Film School SB 459

ANALYST Leger

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

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

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to:
SB 31, SB 384, SB 379, SB 521

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Economic Development Department (EDD)

New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 459 appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) for the purpose of creating a virtual film school in the creative media institute for the office of distance education at NMSU.

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 FY08 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HED verifies NMSU offers a Bachelor of Individualized Studies through the Creative Media Institute (CMI). CMI began as part of Governor Richardson’s support of the states growing film industry. In only its second semester, CMI has 131 students registered for courses.

SB 459 appropriates funds to create a virtual film school, this project is collaboration between NMSU the local 480 union of film. The virtual film school would establish the first online film classes in the state. Funds would also pay for two additional gaming and animation faculty members to work with distance education specialists and teach online courses. In addition to providing two faculty members, funds will facilitate statewide travel for workshops as well as purchase film specific equipment and supplies.

HED notes the virtual film school is still in the development phase. NMSU CMI also submitted a request to HED for \$2.3 million which is included in SB 31.

RELATIONSHIP

SB 31 appropriates \$2.3 million to NMSU CMI.

SB 384 appropriates \$500 thousand to HED for film and media employment training and student productions.

SB 379 appropriates \$50 thousand to EDD to promote film and media enterprises in NM.

SB 521 appropriates \$250 thousand to HED to develop a motion picture arts training program at the appropriate public post-secondary educational institution.

JL/nt