

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 2/10/2007

SPONSOR Leavell LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Western Heritage Museum & Cowboy Hall of Fame SB 557

ANALYST _____

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

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

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

NM Department of Higher Education (NMHED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 557 appropriates \$200,000 from the General Fund to the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) for expenditure in FY08 for New Mexico Junior College (NMJC) to fund the operation of the Western Heritage Museum (WHM) and Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame (LCCHF).

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200,000 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 advises that the WHM and the LCCHF have been housed on the NMJC campus for 28 years. In June 2004, construction on a new 26,994 square-foot building began. The cost of the project was approximately \$5,000,000. According to the RPSF submitted by NMJC, the institution received funding in 2000, 2002, and 2004 through various streams including general

obligation bonds, severance tax bonds, general fund appropriations, and anonymous donations. During this time, the NMJC Board also allocated institutional funds to be used for construction costs.

The requested funding will be used to help defray operating costs of the museum which are projected to be at \$539,000.

HED states that a request for \$190,000 was submitted by NMJC to HED for review, but is not included in the HED funding recommendation for FY08. However, per FY06 SB190 recurring funding is currently in place in the amount of \$157,600.

GM/csd