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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/23/2009

SPONSOR     Powdrell-Culbert     LAST UPDATED                      HB   154  

SHORT TITLE     Rio Rancho Cyber Academy     SB                     

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ANALYST     Aguilar    

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

Higher Education Department (HED)

### SUMMARY

House Bill 154 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Public Education Department for the purpose of expanding synchronous course offerings at the Rio Rancho cyber academy in the Rio Rancho public schools.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC remains concerned with funding initiatives outside of the funding formula as it tends to disqualify school funding and diverts funding away from core educational needs.

Funding for the Rio Rancho cyber academy is contained in the HEC recommendations for HB-3.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Rio Rancho cyber academy is in its third year and offers Rio Rancho students state-aligned online courses both asynchronously (24/7) and synchronously (in real time). This program

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supports students with a blended service model allowing for students to take traditional brick-and-mortar classes in combination with an online course.

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