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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/30/08

SPONSOR Ezzell LAST UPDATED _____ HB 494

SHORT TITLE Chavez & Eddy 4-H Programs SB _____

ANALYST Escudero

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$25.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 441

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)
 Public Education Department (PED)
 New Mexico State University (NMSU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 494 appropriates \$25.0 to the Board of Regents at New Mexico State University (NMSU) for expenditure in FY09 to support the cooperative extension service 4-H youth development program in Chaves and Eddy counties.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$25.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY09 shall revert to the general fund.

This request was not submitted by NMSU to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and is not included in the Departments funding recommendation for FY09.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to HED, 4-H is the youth development program of the Cooperative Extension Service, College of Agriculture & Home Economics at New Mexico State University. NMSU provides scholarships that cover the registration expenses for Senior Leadership Retreat, Youth-Get-Away, Livestock School, Horse School, State 4-H Conference or a portion of the team fees for serving as a State 4-H Officer, Ambassador, or Diplomat. All of the mentioned programs assist to support youth leadership development. NMSU shows there is particular need for this support in the counties of Chavez and Eddy.

According to PED, NMSU, 4-H is the largest youth organization in the world with 7 million youth members and 603,000 volunteer leaders. Today, 4-H projects are offered in creative arts, health and nutrition, natural science, plants and animals, communications and many more areas. 4-H reaches youth in urban, suburban and rural communities throughout New Mexico.

- There are more than 76,000 youth, 11,000 volunteers and more than 200 projects available in New Mexico 4-H clubs. Student participation in 4-H offers youth membership in positive peer groups, year-round community clubs, special-interest and short-term groups, school enrichment programs, leadership experiences, events, camps and activities. Additionally, there are project schools, such as horse, lamb, goat, pig and steer schools, and sewing camps.
- According to NMSU cooperative extension department, this funding will provide the Chavez and Eddy County youth ages 5-19 with outreach opportunities to enhance in-school and after-school activities. Work with the local schools will be done to enhance core curriculum (reading, writing, science and mathematics).
- A “hands-on” approach to learning will engage all underserved youth, including African-American, Native American and Hispanic youth, which is a major focus of this funding. Partnerships between NMSU, local schools and communities to promote life-long learning skills acquisition will ensure academic success and positive involvement of youth in their communities.

According to PED, recent studies conducted by the NMSU State 4-H office revealed that when youth are involved in the 4-H program they are less likely to be involved in risk factors associated with consumption of alcohol and drug use.

- Youths are more likely to be leaders in their school and communities.

According to NMSU, within this context, the New Mexico State University 4-H Youth Development Program has identified youth development program for youth audiences, ages 5-19 as a priority. 4-H program focuses on four approaches in which, the local schools, communities and New Mexico State University will reach out and engage new youth audiences.

1. Outreach to families, communities, schools and the New Mexico State University 4-H Youth Development program working together to enhance in-school, and out-of-school time, including after school programs. The delivery of 4-H projects/subject matter utilizing the experiential learning approach to assist youth to process and apply what is learned to real world examples, achieve higher levels of social performance, and prepare for meaningful work or further education,

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2. The New Mexico State University 4-H Youth Development Program working together with schools will enhance core curriculum (reading, writing, science and arithmetic).
3. New Mexico State University 4-H Youth Development Program will collaborate with families and community partners to ensure a stronger foundation for youth and their community engagement.
4. The New Mexico State University 4-H Youth Development Program will reach new audiences of underserved youth, including African American, Native American and Hispanic youth.

The principal objectives of this request will focus on providing 4-H programs to underserved youth. New Mexico State University 4-H Youth Development Program staff will provide teachers or classroom volunteers with experiential learning lessons and activities that are aligned to New Mexico educational standards and benchmarks. This will enhance core curriculum and more effectively engage students in the classroom. In addition to the school classroom, New Mexico State University 4-H Youth Development professionals will provide educational, hands on activities and programs in club and out of school settings through out the county.

PME/bb