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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1-18-2008

SPONSOR Cisneros LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Flagpoles for Veteran's Services Department SB 54

ANALYST Dearing

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Veterans' Services Department (VSD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 54 appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to the Veterans' Services department for the purpose of purchasing flagpoles for the department's state funeral honors and burial program and state veterans' cemeteries, monuments and museums.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 thousand 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.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Many cemeteries around the state do not have flagpoles installed. Not all families of deceased New Mexico veterans' have chosen the National Cemetery in Santa Fe as a final resting place. The appropriation contained within Senate Bill 54 would provide funding to enhance the grounds of cemeteries statewide with flagpoles, as well as provide for this equipment for the honors and burial program.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

The department raises the question that the passage of this act could possibility violate the anti-donation clause of the New Mexico Constitution, Article IV., Section 31, Appropriations for Charitable, Educational, etc. purposes in those cases where cemeteries are privately owned.

PD/mt