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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/27/08

SPONSOR     Martinez     LAST UPDATED                      HB                     

SHORT TITLE     State Library Division Grants-In-Aid     SB     215    

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ANALYST     Dearing    

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$3,264.2	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Cultural Affairs Department (DCA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 215 appropriates \$3.26 million from the general fund to the State Library division of the Cultural Affairs department for the purpose of increasing grant distributions to statewide public libraries under the Grants-In-Aid for local library services program.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$3.26 million contained in Senate Bill 215 is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY09 and subsequent years shall not revert to the General Fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The appropriation in Senate Bill 215 would increase the amount of funds available for grants-in-aid to public libraries. The grants-in-aid program allocates state money to public libraries for the purposes of funding new library materials, staff training and library equipment. The grants-in-aid program received \$273,000 in FY08, which was allocated to 85 public libraries in the state and resulted in an average grant of \$3,217.

At the current funding level, the per capita amount of NM state aid (based on 2007 census estimates) is \$0.14. This compares to an average per capita amount of \$1.83 in state aid for 21 similarly sized states, i.e., with a population of under 3 million. The amount requested, \$3,624,200, if allocated in one fiscal year, would result in a per capita amount for NM of \$1.67 in state aid making NM comparable to the average for other similarly sized states. The average library award, in that case, would increase to approximately \$42,637.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

According to the department response, no additional operating budget impact is necessary, as this is an existing program. The increased appropriation to the program will result in larger grants-in-aid to each library, but no additional staff time or agency resources will be required to make the allocations.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

If enacted, the LFC recommends that the Cultural Affairs department submit a plan for enhanced/adjusted program evaluation measurement targets to incorporate increased outcome commensurate with larger appropriation levels.

The increased appropriation to grants-in-aid for public libraries will allow statewide public libraries to increase funding for new library materials, staff training and library equipment. This will strengthen libraries as they support the educational, informational and computing needs of their communities and contribute to the economic growth of these communities. Current measurements tracking outreach participation numbers for the division could be impacted through an increased appropriation.

PD/bb