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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/26/09

SPONSOR Cote LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 47

SHORT TITLE NMSU Dona Ana Dental Hygiene Program SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Haug

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$225.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)  
New Mexico State University (NMSU)  
Department of Health (DOH)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 47 appropriates \$225.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University to support the dental hygiene program at Dona Ana Community College.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$225.0 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.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HED states that this request was not submitted to the HED by NMSU, was not included in the HED's funding recommendation for FY10 and is not supported by NMHED.

This appropriation is not included in the LFC appropriation recommendations for Higher Education. The LFC Appropriation Recommendations, Volume II, pages 364-365 states:

The committee has concerns about the growth of research and public service projects within the higher education budget, as well as the alignment of these projects with state goals and strategic plans. The committee also continues to have significant concerns about accountability and performance outcomes for these projects.

The committee recommendation reduces funding by varying levels from FY09 funding amounts for research projects, public service projects and P-20 pipeline projects focusing on students.

According to the December 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$293 million, or 2.6 percent, less than the FY09 appropriation. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

The Executive notes in the Budget in Brief that over the years more than 300 RPSPs have been created, accounting for a large portion of institution budgets. The current RPSPs were reviewed while considering the relevance of the project to the core mission of the institution, the community benefit and the outcomes associated with each project.

NMSU states that while Dona Ana Community College will begin receiving an I&G formula appropriation for 2009-10, it will only cover about one-third of the program and clinic costs. Funding will be used for a supervising Dentist, a dental hygiene faculty member to coordinate and support students as they perform dental procedures on clinic patients, as well as to cover business office staff and clinic operating supplies.

NMSU notes further that collaboration for this project is both internal and external to NMSU Dona Ana Community College. Internally the Clinic is a requirement of accreditation for the Associate Degree dental hygiene instructional program. Externally the Clinic will support the development of a trained labor pool of dental hygienists to cover a shortage of approximately 200 needed annually in New Mexico according to the Department of Labor. Collaboration with public health agencies will allow for the provision of dental services to the economically disadvantaged. We also anticipated serving student as patients in the dental hygiene clinic. Revenue from patients and/or Medicaid is anticipated to match funding at ten to fifteen percent.

The DOH notes that one of the recommendations made by the New Mexico Health Policy Commission in the 1999 SJM21 report on oral health care providers was to “enhance funding to establish a dental career ladder for dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants and dental auxiliary welfare to work candidates at New Mexico universities and community colleges geographically”.

GH/mc