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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/02/09

SPONSOR Jeff LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 440

SHORT TITLE Native American School Visits to Legislature SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Burns

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

Public Education Department (PED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 440 appropriates \$50 thousand from the general fund to the Indian Affairs Department for the purpose of enabling Native American high school students to visit the New Mexico legislature.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50 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 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

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.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

HB 440 would provide funding for Native American high schools to visit the New Mexico Legislature; the funding could be used for traveling, lodging, and per diem expenses for the students during the trip. The program could afford an experiential learning opportunity for Native American students that could reinforce connections to the high school curriculum, expose the students to state governmental history, provide Native American legislative role models, and help them better understand the structure of state government and how they can impact the legislative process.

Studies have shown that students with self-efficacy believes, the belief in themselves that they are able to accomplish their goals, are often more likely to develop interest in professional careers and higher education.<sup>1</sup> HB 440 would provide an opportunity to strengthen Native American student's self-efficacy and understanding of how they can play a role in government and policy making.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE**

As currently written, it is not clear if HB 440 would require the Indian Affairs Department to facilitate visits by Native American students to the capital. Such facilitation may create some administrative work for the department.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

According to both PED and IAD it the specific student population being affected by this bill is unclear including location of high schools, number of student to be affected, or

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

If this bill is not enacted all expenditures incurred by the individual high schools who choose to participate with this initiative will need to be absorbed by the individual high school fiscal budgets.

## **POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

Should the money be appropriated to PED for allocation to schools?

KJB/svb

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<sup>1</sup> American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. "Minority Student Recruitment, Retention and Career Transition Practices: A Review of the Literature" January 2007, 4. Retrieved January 29, 2009, <http://www.asha.org/about/leadership-projects/multicultural/recruit/litreview.htm>.