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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/09/09

SPONSOR Rehm LAST UPDATED _____ HB 644

SHORT TITLE Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps SB _____

ANALYST Hoffmann

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

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 644 appropriates \$50 thousand from the General Fund to the Public Education Department for the Albuquerque Public School District to assist with travel expenses, training, and activities of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

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 February 2009 revenue estimate, fiscal year 2010 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$575 million less than the fiscal year 2009 appropriations before the 2009 solvency reductions. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The PED comments that the JROTC is partly funded by the US Department of Defense. The federal government subsidizes instructor salaries, cadet uniforms, equipment and textbooks. The instructors, usually retired military personnel, continue to receive retirement pay from the federal government, but in addition, the schools pay the difference from what the instructor would receive if they were on active duty. The service concerned then reimburses the school for approximately ½ of the amount paid by the school to the instructor.

The American Friends Service Committee has found that local school districts end up paying substantially more than the cost estimate the military provides, and that a JROTC program costs more on a per-pupil basis than academic, non-military instruction.

Currently there are 38 JROTC programs statewide in New Mexico. Of this total number, there are 12 (soon to be 13) in APS with one at each high school. Army – Albuquerque High. Navy – Highland, Manzano, West Mesa. Air Force – Del Norte, Sandia, Valley, Volcano Vista. Marines – Eldorado, La Cueva, Rio Grande, Cibola. Next year, Atrisco Heritage will have a program.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

This bill does not directly support PED Performance Measures and Public School Performance Measures

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Public Education Department (PED) staff would need to develop and implement a process to flow the money from PED to the appropriate receiving entity. This can be done with existing staff and at minimal costs.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The PED notes that title of this bill says the appropriation is for statewide JROTC, yet, page 1, line 19 of this bill states that it is for the Albuquerque Public Schools.

CH/svb