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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Madelena **ORIGINAL DATE** 2-19-09
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** 748
SHORT TITLE Tribal Land Early Voting Sites **SB** _____
ANALYST Ortiz

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$55.0	Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Companion to HB91

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

Secretary of State (SOS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 748 appropriates \$55 thousand from the general fund to the Secretary of State for the purpose of assisting in the establishment of early voting sites on Indian nation, tribal or pueblo land.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

According to the February 2009 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$575 million less than the FY09 appropriations before the 2009 solvency reductions. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

The appropriation of \$55 thousand contained in this bill is a non-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.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This appropriation would cover a part of the cost incurred by counties to comply with HB91, Early Voting Sites on Tribal Land. HB91 would require county clerks to provide Native American communities, when requested, early voting sites when exterior boundaries of tribal lands may be more than seven miles from an office of the county clerk, rather than fifteen. This new distance requirement would increase Native Americans' opportunity to participate in the political process by reducing the distance to early voting sites.

COMPANIONSHIP

House Bill 91, a companion, amends the existing law that provides for early voting and alternate voting locations on Indian Nation, tribal or Pueblo lands to provide that early alternate voting sites shall be provided when requested if the land is more than seven miles from a county clerk's office. The existing law required such sites where requested if land is more than fifteen miles from a county clerk's office.

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