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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/16/09
 LAST UPDATED 02/23/09 HB _____

SPONSOR Nava

SHORT TITLE UNM Geographic Information System SB 217/aSEC

ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$575.0	Nonrecurring	Public School Capital Outlay Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY12	FY13	FY14	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total	Indeterminate	Indeterminate	Indeterminate	----	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

(See Fiscal Implications Below)

Relates to HB250

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SEC Amendment

The Senate Education Committee amendment requires the geographic information system to be secure and portable and clarifies that it is to be developed through management by the BBER rather than located at and managed by the BBER. The amendment also adds the Department of Information Technology to the list of collaborating entities.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Bill 217, introduced for the Public School Capital Outlay Oversight Task Force, appropriates \$575.0 from the Public School Capital Outlay Fund (PSCOF) to the Public School Facilities Authority to contract with the Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) at the University of New Mexico to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) to be used by executive and legislative agencies. The GIS is to be developed in conjunction with the Public School Capital Outlay Council, the Legislative Finance Committee, the Legislative Education Study Committee, the Taxation and Revenue Department, the Department of Finance and Administration and the Public Education Department and is to be housed at and managed by the BBER.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$750.0 contained in this bill is a non recurring expense to the Public School Capital Outlay Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of Fiscal Year 2012 shall revert to the public school capital outlay fund.

Senate Bill 217 only allocates funds in FY 2010 through FY2012 for the development of the GIS. The bill does not allocate any recurring funding to the BBER for ongoing maintenance and administrative costs following the implementation.

The PED states:

The current PSCOF is funded from the Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds (SSTB's). This revenue stream has been dedicated solely for projects under the Public School Capital Outlay Authority (PSCOA). However, in recent years many programs have been added to the act. Currently funds are used to fund the Capital Improvements Act (SB-9), New School Development Act, the lease payment assistance program, CID reimbursements, PSFA operating budget, assistance for master facility plans, demolition allocations, and emergency allocations. The annual uses from the fund have increased, which means that available revenues for standards-based projects are reduced by the additional programs.

The latest financial plan reveals that after funding all the additional programs from the fund, cost overruns, supplemental awards and emergency awards only \$27,100.0 will be available for standards-based construction projects. This is the lowest amount that the PSCOC will have available for new allocations since the year 2000

The amount that the PSCOC will have available for regular standards-based projects will be further reduced if this bill is enacted into law. The assessment of New Mexico school facilities currently shows a total estimated cost of \$4.1 billion for the life-cycle building renewal and repair needs. This is the amount that is needed to bring up all schools in New Mexico to the current state adequacy standards. This estimate includes categories such as life, safety, health, adequacy of space, etc. Further reducing the revenues available for regular standards-based projects will put the state further behind.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The PSFA states:

The State now requires all school districts to have a Facility Master Plan (FMP) on file prior to applying for any school construction. GIS has proven to be an excellent tool for school planning by providing a system to adequately manage many of the physical aspects of a district, which are progressively becoming more challenging. The Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA) will use GIS for improving the capacity and utilization planning process. The GIS also would improve enrollment projections and demographic analysis, planning of new schools or school additions. Further, by keeping information in a file system that allows infinite queries, reports can be generated more rapidly, and savings of duplicative work is avoided.

Having this information would allow PSFA to speed school project delivery, which is one of the primary drivers of school construction cost savings that would not require a reduction in material or build quality. In a 2007 statewide survey, 98 percent of school district leaders indicated that they favored partnering with the state to more effectively speed project development and construction times.

Besides serving PSFA needs, the GIS can also facilitate better fact-based decision making within the parameters of No Child Left Behind. GIS tools are uniquely valuable in investigating and understand trends and relationships throughout all areas of government. For example, the Texas Department of Education uses GIS to track student performance in determining its list of high performing schools. They then tie this information to school location to identify any trends. GIS provides a geographical means to visualize and analyze information across space, while integrating a multitude of geographical data.

A number of New Mexico state agencies are already aware of the benefit of GIS and are participating in the New Mexico Geospatial Advisory Committee (GAC) which guides the use and development of Geospatial Technologies within New Mexico via the state Department of Information Technology (DOIT). The committee includes representatives from state, federal, tribal, private, and local governments. GIS is already used by many of the Council of Governments (COG) planning groups, city planners, and county planners; but the data is only available in those particular jurisdictions—it is not shared by other jurisdictions across the state. This bill would improve information for road and other infrastructure planning and, would work to encourage cohesive planning in New Mexico.

RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bill 217 relates to House Bill 250 which would appropriate all remaining Severance Tax Bonding funds available for the current legislative session to the PSCOC fund.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

PSFA note that the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) has been funding the E911 Program for several years through a contract with DSR (a private contractor located in Kansas) at approximately \$1.5 million. The legislature enacted the Enhanced 911 Act in 1989 to enable communities to develop or enhance their 911 systems. The funding this year will decrease to

approx. \$1.1 million. It is reported DSR has already geocoded most residential and commercial addresses throughout the state and DSR has shared their information with the individual counties; but the counties do not view their data as public data and restrict access. BBER has tried to obtain the addresses, but DSR declares it proprietary information and will not share without additional charge. This lack of data sharing is a major impediment for other state agencies as they attempt to build their own systems to analyze the data for their specific needs.

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