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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

| SPONSOR | Griego, P. | ORIGINAL DATE LAST UPDATED | 02/04/09 HB | |
|------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| SHORT TITL | E Luna College You | th College Program | SB | 370 |
| | | | ANALYST | Haug |

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropr | iation | Recurring or Non-Rec | Fund Affected |
|---------|---------|-------------------------|------------------|
| FY09 | FY10 | | |
| | \$200.0 | Recurring | General Fund |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)
Luna Community College (LCC)
Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 370 appropriates \$200.0 from the general fund to the Higher Education Department for the Youth College Program at Luna Community College, including participation fees, transportation, student learning kits, instructional supplies and post-program evaluations.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of Fiscal Year 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The HED states that this request, as presented in SB370, was not submitted by LCC to the HED for review and is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY10.

Senate Bill 370 – Page 2

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 included in the HED request by varying levels from FY09 funding amounts for research projects, public service projects and P-20 pipeline projects focusing on students.

With respect to special projects, higher education institutions advanced 114 proposals for new projects and expansions at a total general fund cost of \$54 million during the HED budget request process in fall 2008.

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 Budget in Brief notes 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. (Budget in Brief and Policy Highlights, P 9-10.)

LCC states:

Funding for this project is to be used to increase the length of the program from one week to two weeks per session, yet still host two sessions per summer. This past summer, unlike prior summers, Luna Community College hosted two one week sessions instead of two two week sessions. Also, LCC would like to increase the number of participants per session. The long-term goal of the program is to increase the number of students who are both interested and competitively prepared to pursue a college degree.

In the summer of 2007, Luna Community College was host to 85 participants to the Youth College. There were 40 students in one session and 45 students in the second session. The Summer Youth College provides students in grades 6-9 with activities in hands-on venues to increase their enjoyment of math, science, robotics, food preparation, and technologies. The retention rate of the program was 100% with students expressing interest to return for a second summer.

According to the PED, this initiative may impact the Public School Support Performance Measures for the percent of middle school students who achieve the No Child Left Behind Act annual measurable objective for proficiency or above on standards-based assessments in reading and mathematics. For State Goals for Public Education, it has the potential to help increase academic excellence and student achievement, and to ensure students graduate from high school better prepared to succeed in postsecondary education and the world of work.