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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/19/09

SPONSOR McSorley LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE UNM Preschool-Through-College Math Education SB 462

ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 462 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico to implement the Preschool through College Mathematics and Science Education Center.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 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.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The HED states that this request was submitted by UNM to the HED for review. The Department would have a neutral recommendation for this project for FY10, if the State's fiscal outlook improves.

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 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 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.)

The PED states:

The stated goals of the UNM Center for P-20 Mathematics and Science Education include:

- Increase the number of candidates recruited for and trained in secondary mathematics and science licensure programs;
- Develop a program of study for K-5 math and science specialists;
- Play a leading role in establishing a cohesive, statewide math and science teacher education system;
- Maintain a web site to publicize the statewide plan and create a portal for rural communities to benefit from the Center's programs and activities.

In a report to the LESC (Nov., 2008), the Math and Science Bureau estimated 100 more high school math teachers will be needed to meet the increased demand created by the recent change in graduation requirements in math. Furthermore, the average age of currently licensed math and science teachers is 46 and at least 40% are over the age of 50. In 2007-08 New Mexico public universities only prepared 26 new high school math teachers and 27 high school science teachers through their traditional undergraduate and post-bachelors programs. There were also about 30 high school math teachers and 30 high school science teachers that had Intern licenses while working on an Alternative License.

This project supports all of the Public School Support Performance Measures (a through g).

It also supports the *Strategic Action Plan for Advancing Math and Science Education in New*

Mexico specifically Strategy 1.2 “Improve the initial pre-service preparation of math and science educators.”

The goals and planned activities of the UNM Center for P-20 Mathematics and Science Education are in alignment with the recommendations made by the Math and Science Advisory Council in *NM Project 2012*.

The PED Math and Science Bureau and the Math and Science Advisory Council have collaborated with faculty involved in the UNM P20 Center and will continue collaborations to support the goals of the PED.

The HED notes that The P-20 Division of the HED has been in discussions with leaders at UNM on the development of this Center and will continue to work with them to facilitate the needed collaboration with PED, the Math and Science Advisory Council and postsecondary institutions throughout the state.

GH/mc