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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/18/09

SPONSOR R. Martinez LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Rio Arriba Libraries SB 551

ANALYST Varela

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$90.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 551 appropriates \$90 thousand from the general fund to the Library Services Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) to be equally divided to fund four libraries in Rio Arriba County in Embudo, Truchas, El Rito, and Abiquiu.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$90 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

According to the February 2008 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.

In FY09, DCA received \$60 thousand in a recurring special appropriation for the Library Services Division to support rural libraries in Rio Arriba County.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DCA reports that studies have shown that libraries are the most used cultural venue, with an average of 16.4 visits per year per household. Non-metro residents use libraries even more frequently – 18.8 times per year vs. 15.5 times for metro residents. In total, New Mexico’s 285 libraries see about 8.6 million visits per year.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The DCA Library Services Division has as one of its program goals the enhancement of local communities by supporting the development of local public libraries statewide. The department may consider increasing related performance measures.

RELATIONSHIP

This bill relates to the LFC recommended level of funding for the Library Services Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

PV/mt