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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE
LAST UPDATED 01/30/12 **HB** 225

SPONSOR Maestas

SHORT TITLE Statewide Public Humanities Programs **SB** _____

ANALYST Soderquist

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY12	FY13		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to House Bill 2 and Senate Bill 183
 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

House Bill 225 makes a recurring appropriation of \$150.0 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) for the purpose of paying for statewide public humanities programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

An appropriation of \$150.0 thousand from the general fund would be made to DCA for contractual services supporting statewide humanities programs in FY13 and likely subsequent years. Any remaining or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2013 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Funds for humanities programs were not included were not included in the FY12 appropriation. This bill would restore some of that funding.

In FY10, the DCA budget included \$116.5 thousand for contractual services for statewide humanities programs. In FY11, DCA's budget included \$162.4 thousand in contractual services for statewide humanities programs.

According to the DCA, these funds will be used to contract with the New Mexico Humanities Council (NMHC) for programs related to History Day – a year-long, statewide effort that involves between 2 and 3 thousand students from grades six through twelve and 200 plus New Mexico teachers – and for the production of history-related presentations for the general public. The NMHC had been contracted for History Day coordination since 1998.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

According to the response submitted by DCA, humanities programs promote a better knowledge of history by New Mexican children and adults. With funding returned to DCA's budget, the NMHC programs would reach:

- 320,035 participants at 890 events reaching every county in New Mexico
- 2,000 plus students from around the state participate in the NM History Day competition, and more than 55 go on to compete at the national competition

National History Day (NHD) is a national program in which all states presently participate. NHD has been recognized as having significant impact on educational achievement: participating students score higher in the Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, receive better grades in English, achieve a higher level of writing, and obtain a wide array of college- and career-related skills as compared to peers not participating in NHD.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None. DCA would administer a contract for the services outlined.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 2 and Senate Bill 183

ALTERNATIVES

Senate Bill 183 appropriates \$100.0 thousand for the same purposes as this bill.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Without this funding, New Mexico would potentially be the only state in the country to not participate in the national History Day competition, and there would be no state support of humanities programs on the scale offered by the NMHC.

ANA/lj