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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 01/23/13

SPONSOR Hamilton LAST UPDATED _____ HJM 3

SHORT TITLE Use Approval Agencies for Veterans' Bills SB _____

ANALYST Cerny

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	Minimal				Nonrecurring	

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Veterans Services Department (VSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 3 requests that the New Mexico congressional offices use the New Mexico state approving agency and the National Association of State Approving Agencies when considering legislation that could impact education benefits for New Mexico Veterans.

Copies of the memorial will be transmitted to members of the New Mexico congressional delegation, the secretary of the United States department of veterans affairs, the president of the national association of state directors of veteran affairs, the national association of state approving agencies and the veterans service department.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Minimal costs will be incurred in notifying recipients.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

VSD notes that the State Approving Agency (SAA), a division of the DVS, is responsible for the review, evaluation and approval of education and training programs under state and federal criteria. The SAA conducts supervisory visits to institutions and schools seeking Veterans

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Administration approval for their programs. They provide technical assistance to all interested parties interested in veteran education. These programs are found in colleges and universities as well as vocational and technical schools, apprenticeship programs and other on-the-job training programs and flight schools.

With the expertise that the SAA has regarding veteran education programs, it would be appropriate for the congressional delegation to use the SAA as a technical advisor when considering changes to federal veteran education benefits.

CC/bm