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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Soules **ORIGINAL DATE** 01/21/14
LAST UPDATED 01/30/14 **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE NMSU Alliance for Advancement of Teaching **SB** 40

ANALYST Hartzler-Toon

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
	\$99.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY14	FY15	FY16	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total			\$99.0	\$99.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: New Mexico State University, Alliance for Teaching and Learning Advancement

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)
 New Mexico State University (NMSU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 40 appropriates \$99 thousand from the general fund to NMSU to support the Alliance for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

As drafted, the appropriation of \$99 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund; however, HED and LFC analysis interpret the bill to be a recurring expense.

Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY15 shall not revert to the general fund.

In FY14, the Alliance received a recurring general fund appropriation of \$76.4 thousand. For FY15, NMSU requested an additional \$99 thousand, or 130 percent increase, in general fund revenues, for a total program expansion of \$175.4 thousand. In FY07, the Alliance received a general fund appropriation of \$175 thousand. The HED did not request additional funding for the program as part of its annual FY15 budget submission.

For FY15, the LFC recommended \$76.7 thousand in general fund support for the Alliance, while the Executive recommended the FY14 general fund level. (See LFC Volume II, page 338.) The LFC's general fund recommendation included a \$300 increase to fund the 0.75 percent increase to the education retirement fund pursuant to Section 22-11-21 NMSA 1978. If the LFC recommendation and SB 40 were enacted, the Alliance would receive \$175.4 thousand in general fund revenues, representing a 130 percent increase over the FY14 level.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to HED, the Alliance

creates opportunities for collaborative partnerships in education by linking NMSU faculty and resources with rural and border school districts and communities in southern and eastern New Mexico. The proposed allocation is designated to support the hiring of a full time director and program coordinator. Currently, these positions are filled on a part time basis. Additional benefits of expanded funding include 1) more professional development and technical assistance for teachers and administrators, 2) increased community outreach, and 3) and an increase in the ability of school districts to respond to current educational policies and curricular standards.

NMSU reports that increased revenues would help the Alliance provide more professional development and technical assistance to teacher and administrators, as identified by superintendents of the 17 member districts. Some of the priority areas for development are related to end-of-course assessments and Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), common core standards, improving parent and community engagement for educational improvement.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The Alliance currently receives general fund support and its annual performance reports are considered in the budget review process. For example, the program has exceeded its goals of reaching a benchmark of 300 educational professionals per year. Most of the Alliance's performance metrics focus on outputs (for example, the number of meetings attended, trainings offered, and times technical assistance has been offered). To measure the effectiveness of current and any additional general fund support, the program may consider revising its performance metrics and measure improved student outcomes based on the meetings, trainings, and assistance offered.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The Alliance would continue to receive consistent levels of general fund support.