

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE  
BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill Number:** HB 437

**52nd Legislature, 1st Session, 2015**

**Tracking Number:** .199600.1

**Short Title:** UNM Info Tech Training & Software Upgrades

**Sponsor(s):** Representative Tomás E. Salazar

**Analyst:** James Ball

**Date:** February 20, 2015

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**Bill Summary:**

HB 437 makes an appropriation for state educational institutions to fund:

- a statewide information technology training;
- related consultation services; and
- business management software upgrades.

**Fiscal Impact:**

\$2.0 million is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for expenditure in FY 16 and subsequent fiscal years. Unexpended or unencumbered funds do not revert to the General Fund.

**Fiscal Issues:**

The Higher Education Department (HED) states that the appropriation request in HB 437 is made on behalf of the Council of University Presidents (CUP) to provide an upgrade of the Banner<sup>1</sup> system used by several institutions. HED also notes that this request was not submitted to HED as part of the formal budget review process for FY 16 appropriations.

**Substantive Issues:**

According to HED, the Banner system is a tool that facilitates CUP's goals of supporting New Mexico's seven public universities through:

- information sharing;
- collaboration;
- strategic planning;

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<sup>1</sup> Banner is the name of a fully integrated administrative software application developed for and used specifically by universities to manage their business operations. The Banner system supports and manages student information, accounts receivable, financial aid, alumni development, finance, and human resources. Systems within the software are highly integrated because they all share a common database. Banner may include a number of self-service features so that students, faculty, advisors, and staff can access personalized and online university services to conduct business.

- policy development; and
- community outreach.

Software upgrades in a shared system of this type are complex undertakings, especially if the existing software contains custom coding. An upgrade of such an integrated system must be carefully executed or the functionality delivered may be less than what was desired. UNM will serve as the lead agency for this process.

**Committee Referrals:**

HEC/HAFC

**Related Bills:**

None as of February 20, 2015.