

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: HB 471

52nd Legislature, 1st Session, 2015

Tracking Number: .199003.1

Short Title: Land Grant Ethnohistory Project

Sponsor(s): Representative Jimmie C. Hall

Analyst: James Ball

Date: February 27, 2015

Bill Summary:

HB 471 makes an appropriation for the Southwest Hispanic Research Institute at the University of New Mexico (UNM) to make a video record of Spanish and Mexican community land grants, with a focus on their development since 1990.

Fiscal Impact:

\$100,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of UNM for expenditure in FY 16. Unexpended or unencumbered funds revert to the General Fund.

Fiscal Issues:

For FY 16, HAFC/CS HB 2 & 4, the *General Appropriation Act of 2015*, includes a \$131,800 General Fund appropriation to UNM for land grant studies (page 145, line 23).

According to UNM's analysis of a similar bill (SB 234, *Land Grant Ethnohistory Project*); however, the video project in HB 471 is entirely separate from the Land Grant Studies Program, which has been in existence since 2008 and which provides research and technical support for community land grants. The institute and the program see merit in a documentary of this type, but consider it to be of a less immediate priority than the ongoing support that they provide to community land grants.

Background:

The Higher Education Department states that the Land Grant Studies Program at UNM was created in 2008 by the Southwest Hispanic Research Institute. The program conducts research and public outreach on New Mexico land grant issues.

Committee Referrals:

HEC/HAFC

Related Bills:

SB 210 *General Appropriation Act of 2015*

SB 234 *Land Grant Ethnohistory Project*

HB 5 *General Appropriation Act of 2015*