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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Trujillo, Ca **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/6/2015
LAST UPDATED 3/9/2015 **HB** 256

SHORT TITLE NM Tech Supercomputing Challenge Program **SB** _____

ANALYST Hartzler

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|---------------|--------|------------------------------|------------------|
| FY15 | FY16 | | |
| | \$90.0 | Recurring | General Fund |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

| | FY15 | FY16 | FY17 | 3 Year Total Cost | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|--------------|------|--------|--------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Total | | \$90.0 | \$90.0 | \$180.0 | Recurring | General Fund |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act, Section 4J Higher Education, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NM Tech), Supercomputing Challenge Program

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act, Section 4 Higher Education,

- NM Tech, Science Fair/Science Olympiad
- Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU), Youth Robotics Competition

Relates to Bills:

HB 59 ENMU Statewide Robotics Workshops
HJM 1 Unified Science, Math and Technology Championship
SJM 13 NM Robotics Education and Competition Weekend

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 256 appropriates \$90 thousand from the general fund to New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NM Tech) to support the supercomputing challenge program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$90 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY16 shall not revert.

Based on LFC files, this bill would add funding to an existing program at NM Tech. For FY15, the program received \$59.8 thousand in general fund support. HB 2, as passed by the House, includes the FY15 level of funding. Should HB 356 and the House-passed HB 2 be enacted, the program would receive nearly \$150 thousand, more than double the current level of support.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The New Mexico Supercomputing Challenge is the annual competition to determine the state's representation at the national competition. According to the New Mexico Supercomputing Challenge website, over 370 students and 65 teachers from 54 middle and high schools have registered for the 2014-2015 Supercomputing Challenge. Registration begins in the fall, with projects reviewed at 10 colleges and universities during February 2015. Final project reports and participation in the national competition will occur in April.

Funding will support student scholarships to attend the national competition and faculty scholarships to attend a summer program to improve teacher effectiveness in Supercomputing Challenge.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

No performance measures are associated with this appropriation. NM Tech may consider submitting measures based on statewide school and student participation, number of teachers training and leading teams, and success of New Mexico's teams in regional and national competition.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

See the list above. HB 256 duplicates an appropriation in the General Appropriation Act. The state also provides general fund support for similar programs at NM Tech and ENMU.

TH/aml/je