FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

	ORIGINAL DATE 2/22/2015	
SPONSOR Herrell	**LAST UPDATED**	**HB** 394
SHORT TITLE Minority Math & Science Achievement Program		**SB**
	ANALYST Hartzler	

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	**FY16**		
	$50.0	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		$50.0	$50.0	$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act, Section 4J, Higher Education Department, Policy Development and Institutional Financial Oversight

SOURCES OF INFORMATION
LFC Files

Responses Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)
Minority Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement (MESA) Program

SUMMARY

 Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 394 appropriates $50 thousand from the general fund to HED for the MESA Program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of $50 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 revert to the general fund.

For FY15, HED, as fiscal agent for MESA, received a $1.28 million general fund appropriation

for MESA. For FY16, the LFC and Executive recommended this same level of general fund support, and this amount is included in HB 2, as approved by the House Appropriation and Finance Committee. Should HB 394 and HB 2 be enacted, the FY16 general fund appropriation to MESA would be $1.32 million, or a 4 percent increase over FY15 levels.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the program director,

> MESA is a non-profit organization providing a pre-college program that prepares students for postsecondary majors and subsequent careers in mathematics, engineering, science, and other technology-related fields. MESA is part of a nationwide initiative that promotes educational enrichment for pre-college students from historically underrepresented ethnic groups. Through seven regional offices (two in Albuquerque and one each in Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Gallup, Las Cruces, and Roswell), MESA supports student programs in middle and high schools throughout the state. A teacher (typically a math or science teacher) from the school administers each school program. Through memoranda of understanding (MOU), school districts pay participating teachers $2,000 per year and provide up to nine release days, while MESA covers the costs for teachers' food, transportation, and supplies to participate in activities, events, and competitions.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

HED collects performance measures and targets from MESA as part of the program's annual budget review and request process. MESA reports both demographic (such as, numbers of students, teachers, and schools participating) and longitudinal data addressing rates of college enrollment, persistence, and completion.

The program director reports that "standard based assessment (SBA) scores for MESA students are higher than the NM average. MESA students attend college at much higher rates, 82 percent, than other New Mexico students, 47 percent. Half of MESA students earn a bachelor's degree or higher compared to 39 percent of other New Mexico students. The average ACT (22.5) and SAT (1670) scores for MESA students are higher than the scores for other New Mexicans, at 19.9 and 1498 respectively.

DUPLICATION

HB 394 duplicates an appropriation in the General Appropriation Act to HED for the MESA Program.

TH/bb