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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Nunez ORIGINAL DATE 3/1/15
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 485

SHORT TITLE Dona Ana Regional Educational Initiative SB _____

ANALYST Chavez

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	\$100.0		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico State University (NMSU)

No Response Received

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 485 appropriates \$100 thousand from the general fund to the board of regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) for the purpose of implementing the Dona Ana county regional educational initiative.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100 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. However, should the appropriation be included in Section 4 of the General Appropriation Act as a line-item to each institution, the funds would not revert to the general fund.

During the FY16 budget process, NMSU did not request funds for this effort. For FY16, the

HED did not request, nor did the LFC or Executive recommend, general fund support for this initiative.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

NMSU analysis states the appropriation would be used by NMSU-Dona Ana Community College (DACC) for matching financial support for The Bridge of Southern New Mexico.

NMSU adds:

The Bridge, a 501c3 non-profit since 2009, is a business-driven collaborative supporting education, workforce readiness and economic development throughout Dona Ana County and New Mexico. Key to the mission are raising high school graduation rates, preventing high school dropouts, and expanding student opportunities to earn dual credit in high school for a two-year jump-start on college and/or technical career preparation. Through the support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Daniels Fund, The Bridge has already supported the state's first early college high school in Las Cruces, four ECHS startups statewide, expanded parent mentoring services in Dona Ana County, and increased business mentoring support to keep at-risk students in school and on a path for successful employment and career readiness.

Finally, NMSU emphasizes the importance of continued state support for dual credit and early college high school expansion as necessary to sustain the success of these efforts statewide.

The HAFC substitute for HB 2 includes \$1 million for dual credit instructional materials. Additionally, the higher education funding formula for FY16 includes incentive funding for institutions of higher education that offer dual credit courses.

KC/aml/je