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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/27/2015

SPONSOR Kernan LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Veterinary Students Through WICHE Program SB 170

ANALYST Hartzler

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	\$300.0	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		\$300.0	\$300.0	\$600.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act, Section 4J, Higher Education Department, Student Financial Aid

Relates to SB 35, Appropriation to Increase Dental Students in the WICHE Program

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 170 (SB 170) appropriates \$300 thousand from the general fund to HED for the purpose of funding at least two additional veterinary students to obtain their doctorates in veterinary medicine through the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) loan for service program. The bill provides funding to be expended between fiscal years 2016 and 2019.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY19 shall revert to the general fund. However, should this appropriation be incorporated in the General Appropriation Act (GAA) to HED's student financial aid program, the appropriation would not revert pursuant to language in the GAA.

To earn a doctorate in veterinary medicine, students complete four years of academic study. This appropriation would fund two veterinary students, for a total of \$75 thousand per year, between FY16 and FY19. HED reports that approximately 32 veterinary students, with eight students per cohort, currently participate in the WICHE loan-for-service program. For FY15, HED provided 31 students with \$1.04 million in assistance. If SB 170 is enacted, the FY16 cohort would expand to 10 students, for a total of 33 students at \$1.07 million.

COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB 170 relates to SB 35, a bill appropriating \$400 thousand to increase the number of dental school students participating in the WICHE loan-for-service program. Should SB 35 and SB 170 be enacted, the WICHE loan-for-service program annual generally fund appropriation would increase from nearly \$2.3 million to \$2.9 million.

TH/bb