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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/19/2015

SPONSOR Rodriguez LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE NMHU Intercollegiate Wrestling Program SB 411

ANALYST Hartzler

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY15	FY16		
	\$200.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act, Section 4J, Higher Education, New Mexico Highlands University, Athletics

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 411 appropriates \$200 thousand from the general fund to New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) to support the operational costs associated with the university's wrestling program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$200 thousand contained in this bill is recurring to the general fund. As stated in the bill, any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY16 shall not revert to the general fund. However, if this appropriation for NMHU's wrestling program is included in Section 4 of the General Appropriation Act, the funding will not revert to the general fund pursuant to legislative language governing that section.

In FY 15, NMHU's athletic program, including the wrestling program, received a \$\$2.1 million general fund appropriation, representing 75 percent of the university's intercollegiate athletics budget. The men's wrestling budget is \$169.2 thousand, to cover costs of 1.5 FTE, scholarships, travel, and supplies.

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For FY 16, the university requested additional funds for the athletic program, mostly to pay for increased travel expenses. The LFC recommended an increase for athletics, while the Executive did not. HAFC approved \$2.04 million for the university's athletics program, a reduction of \$105 thousand from FY15 levels.

Should SB 411 and the HAFC amendment be enacted, NMHU's athletics program would receive a general fund appropriation of \$2.24 million, or a \$124 thousand increase over FY 15 levels, and the wrestling program's budget would more than double.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

NMHU and other New Mexico's other comprehensive universities have reported on the increased costs facing their athletic programs.

DUPLICATION

SB 411 duplicates a general fund appropriation to NMHU for athletics.

TH/bb/je