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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**SPONSOR** Campos **ORIGINAL DATE** 01/02/16  
**LAST UPDATED** \_\_\_\_\_ **HB** \_\_\_\_\_  
**SHORT TITLE** Vietnam Veterans Memorial Critical Needs **SB** 186  
**ANALYST** Daly

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	\$311.5	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD)

Veterans Services Department (VSD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 186 appropriates \$311.5 thousand from the general fund to EMNRD’s State Parks Division (SPD) for the critical needs of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park (VVMSP) in Angel Fire.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$311.5 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY17 shall revert to the general fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

EMNRD points out that SB 186 does not address what “critical needs” would be addressed by this appropriation to the VVMSP. The agency also advises that SPD has addressed the critical needs of the park as part of the EMNRD budget submitted by the Executive. HAFC has

recommended a flat budget for EMNRD for FY17. The SPD-based budget from FY16 includes other costs of \$557 thousand for grounds and buildings, \$194 thousand for HVAC system repairs, and \$439 thousand for buildings and structures. EMNRD reports that the SB 186 appropriation could be utilized to address infrastructure, safety and education/outreach needs at the VVMSP.

Last year, according to EMNRD, SPD was appropriated \$202,500 in severance tax bond funds “to plan, design, construct, renovate, equip, purchase and install improvements to facilities, grounds, signage, drainage and exhibits” at the VVMSP, which funding was spent on infrastructure improvements at that park.

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

VSD reports that the VVMSP was first established in 1968 by Dr. Victor Westphall to memorialize his son, David, who was killed in action during the Vietnam Conflict. The park opened in 1971 as the first memorial to the veterans of the Vietnam Conflict and quickly became a mecca for Vietnam Veterans across the country. It continues to draw Vietnam Veterans as a place of peace and healing for these veterans. VVMSP was transferred from the Westphall Foundation to SPD in 2005.

MD/al