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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Rodriguez **ORIGINAL DATE** _____ **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE Santa Fe Community College Radiography Tech **SB** 197

ANALYST Chilton

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	\$197.0	Recurring	General Fund
	\$103.0	Non-recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Santa Fe Community College (SFCC)

Responses Not Received From
Department of Health (DOH)
Higher Education Department (HED)
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

This bill, Santa Fe Community College Radiology Tech, appropriates \$300 thousand from the general fund to the Higher Education Department in order to fund a radiography technician program at Santa Fe Community College.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300 thousand contained in this bill is a partly recurring expense (\$197,000 per year) and partly non-recurring expense (\$103,000 for FY2017) to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of Fiscal Year 2017 shall revert to the general fund.

SFCC explains the breakdown as follows:

“The total cost of the program is approximately \$450 thousand; \$250 thousand for digital imaging equipment and \$197 thousand for two twelve-month faculty members that are required by the radiography technology accreditor (the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT)). However SFCC is only asking for \$300 thousand at this time because it has entered into partnership with a local healthcare provider, Santa Fe Imaging, to use their equipment and provide our students with contextualized training. The additional \$103 thousand will assist the college in purchasing and installing the needed digital equipment. The two faculty members will serve as a director of the program and as a clinical coordinator.”

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SFCC notes that

“In 2015 Northern New Mexico College (NNMC) closed its radiologic technology program which served the healthcare and employment demand in the Northern New Mexico area [from Española]. Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) would like to respond to this community need by reopening this program...

“Local healthcare agencies always look to hire local graduates before hiring from out-of-district or region due to retention issues. Maintaining a local program would bring continued employment to the community and continue to increase STEM higher education options to students. By transferring the program from NNMC to SFCC, the current director and clinical coordinator can continue to provide excellent training through the same accredited program. Students who were working on the prerequisites to get in to the program could continue on their career paths without having to leave their communities...

“Medical imaging jobs such as radiologic technology are high wage jobs. Average pay is \$26.88 per hour with an associate degree in radiologic technology. Without a program in place at a public institution, private institutions are threatening to take over clinical sites in Northern New Mexico. The Affordable Care Act will continue to create an increase in demand for healthcare providers and technicians.

“Furthermore, by offering a high quality program at a public postsecondary institutions, it allows our residents a much more affordable option to receive their training. For example, attending one of the for-profit institutions would cost \$30,000 over a two-year period to complete the program compared to \$6,000 at SFCC.”

There are currently six other New Mexico programs training radiology technicians, located in Albuquerque (3), Roswell, Las Cruces, and Clovis. It has been estimated that there will be a 13% growth in radiology jobs in New Mexico by 2021.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

SFCC currently has nine radiology technology students enrolled, and hopes to take in 12 students per year into this program beginning in fall 2016.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

SFCC would handle administration and accounting for the funds.

LAC/jle/jo