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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Alcon/Johnson/ Garcia, H ORIGINAL DATE 02/07/18 LAST UPDATED _____ HM 92

SHORT TITLE Land Transfer for Ft. Wingate Memorial SB _____

ANALYST Amacher

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY18	FY19	FY20	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Attorney General’s Office (NMAG)
 Indian Affairs Department (IAD)
 State Land Office (SLO)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of the House Memorial

House Memorial 92 supports a transfer of real property from the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Indian Affairs to the National Park Service for the creation of a national monument devoted to Fort Wingate, its history and its long-reaching impact.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no known fiscal impacts of this memorial.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

House Memorial 92 requests the New Mexico congressional delegation support all efforts to transfer approximately 495 acres of real property from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to the National Park Service for the creation of a national monument devoted to Fort Wingate, its history and long-reaching impact. And as highlighted in the memorial, Fort Wingate functioned in many roles for the U.S. Military since the late 1800’s.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Fort Wingate is located on approximately 15,280 acres near Gallup in McKinley County. Since its closure as a U.S. Army Depot in 1993, approximately 5,800 acres have been transferred to the BIA as part of the environmental clean-up and land repurpose activities typical in the closure of military sites deemed no longer useful. The BIA has been tasked in ensuring these lands benefit both the Navajo Nation and the Pueblo of Zuni.

HM 92 indicates that there is a planned demolition of several buildings on the site, and with it the destruction of tangible Navajo historical artifacts thereby adding emphasis that a transfer in the near future is of critical importance.

The Indian Affairs Department (IAD) notes that the impact of the land transfer on the bordering reservations of the Navajo Nation and the Zuni Tribe is not addressed in the memorial. Discussion with the tribes may be judicious, partly due to the site of Fort Wingate on ancestral homeland of both tribes. Communication with the involved tribes is vital to appropriately recognize and to suitably incorporate the cultural heritage and historical significance from the Native American perspective. IAD further notes the memorial has not addressed future access concerns or potential environmental concerns.

The State Land Office (SLO) notes there are no state trust lands in the vicinity of Fort Wingate, and the SLO would not be affected by a transfer of lands associated with Fort Wingate from BIA to the National Park Service.

JMA/sb