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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/31/19

SPONSOR Ortiz y Pino LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Statewide Nursing Education Appropriation SB 137

ANALYST Hawker

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation					Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23		
	\$360.0				Recurring	General Fund

Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases

Relates to HB 270

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNM/HSC)
 Central New Mexico Community College (CNM)
 Higher Education Department (HED)
 New Mexico State University (NMSU)
 New Mexico State University – Carlsbad (NMSU-C)

Other Responses Receive From

New Mexico Independent Community Colleges

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 137 appropriates \$360.0 thousand from the general fund to the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center to support the efforts of the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC) which includes managing a common nursing curriculum and improving outcomes in New Mexico’s undergraduate nursing programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$360.0 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund.

Higher education institutions in New Mexico do not revert unexpended funding back to the state's general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SB 137 provides funding to support NMNEC, a collaborative of state-funded nursing programs in New Mexico. NMNEC provides a common pre-licensure core nursing curriculum that supports multiple pathways into nursing. In prior years, NMNEC's work was funded through private grants awarded to UNM/HSC. Those grants have expired. NMNEC is faced with limited resources, primarily decreased staffing levels to continue supporting the statewide network.

SB 137 enables NMNEC to continue to manage and coordinate New Mexico's statewide nursing education system; maintain the common curriculum from both instructional and accreditation standpoints; implement the common curriculum in additional universities and community colleges that offer bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) and associate of science in nursing (ADN) education; and evaluate the statewide nursing education system to establish statewide benchmarking.

This request was not submitted to HED for possible incorporation into the HED higher education funding recommendation. HED has a formal process for reviewing earmarked budget requests for higher education institutions when developing the HED funding recommendation.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

According to the 2018 *New Mexico Health Care Workforce Committee* report, 29 counties have fewer RNs per population than national benchmark. Valencia, Sandoval, Doña Ana, Lea and Otero counties need an additional 1,517 RNs to achieve benchmark RN to population ratio. For New Mexico, assuming no redistribution of the current workforce, an additional 3,022 RNs are needed to meet the national benchmark in all counties.

https://www.nmhanet.org/files/NMHCWF_2018Report.pdf

The NMNEC partnership between New Mexico's community colleges and universities has allowed for the expansion of access to the BSN for nursing students throughout the state. Due to NMNEC, the BSN is now offered in 14 locations in New Mexico, 9 of which are rural. The partnership has resulted in:

- system of seamless transfer for students between NMNEC ADN and BSN programs;
- coordination of nursing faculty professional development
- expanded BSN student capacity through the university/community college partnerships
- coordinated system that is nationally recognized as successfully producing a BSN prepared nursing workforce.

The UNM College of Nursing has coordinated NMNEC since its inception in 2009.

RELATIONSHIP

HB 270 appropriates \$500.0 thousand for the same purpose.

VKH/sb