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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Shendo ORIGINAL DATE 2/10/2020
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE UNM Native Studies Relationships SB 262
ANALYST Gelay

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY20	FY21		
	\$250.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB52, and HB134

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

University of New Mexico (UNM)
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 262 (SB262) appropriates \$250 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico for the purpose of supporting students in the Native American Studies (NAS) program to develop relationships with Native communities.

There is no effective date of this bill. It is assumed that the effective date is 90 days following adjournment of the Legislature.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY21 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC budget recommendation for FY21 included a \$300 appropriation for NAS.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The appropriated funds in this bill would support undergraduate and graduate students in Native American studies to do internships and graduate level projects of excellence in collaboration with pueblos, nations and tribes in New Mexico, or in organizations related to tribal communities. The funding would also support curriculum development to address certain court findings in the *Yazzie / Martinez* lawsuit.

UNM reports that Native American Studies Community-Based Education has been a priority research and public service project for UNM for the last two years, but that it has not been funded. The \$250 thousand appropriation would support Native American Studies students in leadership development, community engagement, and for high school and college course development. In addition to benefiting NAS students, tribal communities and affiliated organizations will also benefit.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

HED requests that because SB262 does not outline specific performance measures, if funded, the UNM NAS program should develop performance measures in coordination with tribal communities and HED.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

UNM would administer this program.

RELATIONSHIP, DUPLICATION

SB262 relates to HB134, “Funding to Improve Educational Outcomes,” which includes an appropriation of \$9.1 million from the general fund to UNM New Mexico for the purpose of developing programs addressing issues related to the Martinez and Yazzie consolidated lawsuit;

SB262 duplicates a section of HB52, “Multicultural Programing at UNM,” which proposes an appropriation of \$225 thousand to support the NAS program in leadership development, community-based engagement, the graduate program and high school curriculum development.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

UNM reports NAS currently does not have sustainable and recurring funding to support student projects and work, which limits the development of long-term, impactful partnerships with tribal communities and organizations, which is a primary goal of the NAS. Additionally, curriculum development with New Mexico secondary school teachers to integrate NAS content cannot occur without funding support from this bill.

HED adds that not passing SB262 would create a missed opportunity for NAS students to apply what they learn in classrooms to real life situations and scenarios at tribal communities.

JGG/sb