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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Steinborn ORIGINAL DATE 1/28/21
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE Nominating Committees of Board of Regents, CA SJR 7
ANALYST Valenzuela

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY21	FY22	FY23	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$150.0 - \$200.0		\$150.0 - \$200.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED)

New Mexico Independent Community Colleges (NMICC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Joint Resolution

Senate Joint Resolution 7 amends Article 12, Section 13 of the Constitution of New Mexico so that the nonstudent regents are to be nominated by the Governor from a list of at least three names provided by a separate nominating committee established by law for that institution. The Legislature shall provide for the appointment, terms, powers and duties of the nominating committees. No more than 50 percent of the nominating committee shall be members of the same political party. This amendment shall be submitted to the people for approval or rejection at the next general election or at any special election prior to that date that may be called for that purpose.

If approved, the provisions in SJR 7 shall take effect July 1, 2023.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Under Section 1-16-4 NMSA 1978 and the New Mexico constitution, the SoS is required to print samples of the text of each constitutional amendment, in both Spanish and English, in an amount equal to ten percent of the registered voters in the state. The SoS is also required to publish them once a week for four weeks preceding the election in newspapers in every county in the state. The estimated cost per constitutional amendment is \$125 thousand-\$150 thousand depending

upon the size and number of ballots and if additional ballot stations are needed.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The amendment to the Constitution proposed by SJR7 will require all state educational institutions enumerated in Article 12, Section 11 to have regents appointed via nominating committee process. The institutions are:

- University of New Mexico (UNM)
- New Mexico State University (NMSU)
- New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU)
- Western New Mexico University (WNMU)
- Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU)
- New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NMIMT)
- New Mexico Military Institute (NMMI)
- New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NMSBVI)
- New Mexico School for the Deaf (NMSD)
- Northern New Mexico College (NNMC)

MFV/sb/rl