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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Padilla/Soules/Sariñana LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_  
ORIGINAL DATE 1/25/2023  
SHORT TITLE Quantum Info Science Tech Faculty BILL NUMBER Senate Bill 154  
ANALYST Jorgensen

### APPROPRIATION\* (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
	\$1,500.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses ( ) indicate expenditure decreases.

\*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Relates to Senate Bill 79

### Sources of Information

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

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

## SUMMARY

### Synopsis of Senate Bill 154

Senate Bill 154 (SB154) appropriates \$500 thousand each from general fund to NMSU, UNM, and New Mexico Tech for the purpose of hiring a designated quantum information science technology faculty member. The appropriation may be expended between fiscal years 2024 and 2027.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect June 16, 2023, (90 days after the Legislature adjourns) if signed into law.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1.5 million contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY27 shall revert to the fund. Although this bill does not specify future appropriations, multiyear appropriations, particularly if used to fund services, create an expectation the program will continue in future fiscal years; therefore, this cost could become recurring after the funding period.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

UNM reports that the university is actively working with Sandia National Laboratories to formalize the quantum New Mexico institute (QNM-I), and that:

The foundation laid by the UNM-Sandia partnership in the QNM-I will enable UNM to lead a broader “Quantum New Mexico Coalition” (QNM-C), potentially including Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Air Force Research Laboratory, as well as additional universities, tribal colleges, and community colleges in New Mexico to create a strong and diverse QISE network in higher education. A broader private-public partnership with local, state, and federal agencies will strengthen New Mexico’s position as a national hub for QISE including basic and applied research, education, workforce development, and its economic impact.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

SB154 relates to SB79 in that both bills seek to support and accelerate New Mexico’s leadership in quantum science and technology. SB79 supports quantum materials technology while SB154 supports quantum information technology.

CJ/al/ne