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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/30/09

SPONSOR Madalena LAST UPDATED _____ HB 459

SHORT TITLE Jemez Public Library SB _____

ANALYST Burns

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	20.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 459 appropriates \$20 thousand from the general fund to the Indian affairs department for the purpose of providing library services to the Pueblo of Jemez.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$20 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2010 shall revert to the general fund.

According to the December 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$293 million, or 2.6 percent, less than the FY09 appropriation. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Jemez Library participated in the Indian Affairs Department and State Library Comprehensive Assessment of Tribal Libraries Study prescribed by House Memorial 59 from

the 2008 legislative session.¹ The assessment was meant to “determine the financial resources and needs for the operation of libraries.

The findings of the assessment demonstrated how many tribal libraries in the state have difficulty in finding sustainable funding. Funding for Jemez library operations are one or two-year grants that create obstacles for long term library planning for sustaining programming. The majority of grants received go toward salaries and programming, while state grants-in-aid can only be used for catalog development. The assessment reported that Jemez was one of two tribal public libraries that received no funding from their tribal government for the previous years and must rely on grants for all operational expenses. The director of the Jemez Library reported in the assessment that there are times when the utilities and propane for heating cannot be paid and in such times the library goes without until more funding can be found to reconnect services. Other needs include lack of adequate space for library collections, lack of updated computers and software for patrons and staff, and lack of funding for needed repairs to the un-renovated portions of the library. The director of Jemez Library recently reported a significant drop off in patronage due to winter temperatures within the library when propane service was discontinued for lack of payment.²

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The intention of the funding is unclear. Is the funding meant to supplement capital expenditures or the operating budget of the library?

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The consequences of not enacting this bill will be that the Jemez Pueblo public library will receive less financial support for operational expenses that are not covered by current grants, and the Library may have to cut services or operating hours to tribal members and non-Indian community members and tourists who frequent the library.

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¹ House Memorial 59, 2008 1st Legislative Session.

² Tamara Sandia, Jemez Pueblo Public Community Library, phone conversation January 30, 2009.