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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/20/09

SPONSOR Chasey LAST UPDATED _____ HB 486

SHORT TITLE Central NM Community College Bus Passes SB _____

ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$25.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 486 appropriates \$25.0 thousand from the general fund to the Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division, for the City of Albuquerque to issue bus passes for Central New Mexico Community College students.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$25.0 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 February 2009 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$575 million less than the FY09 appropriations before the 2009 solvency reductions. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The HED states that the bill reflects the continuation of a \$24,000 appropriation in FY09 for the

same purpose. As a result of the FY09 appropriation, over 5,000 CNM students have received free bus passes.

The PED notes that this initiative may help Albuquerque high school students travel to/from dual credit courses at CNM for free (currently high school students pay \$0.35 each way for Albuquerque transit bus transportation), which may then address the state goal for public education to ensure all students graduate from high school better prepared to succeed in postsecondary education and the world of work. For high school graduation, students entering high school in the fall of 2009 must have a dual credit, honors, Advanced Placement or distance learning credit in order to receive a diploma of excellence.

GH/mc