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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/24/09

SPONSOR Arnold-Jones LAST UPDATED _____ HB 760

SHORT TITLE Albuquerque Schools UNM Mentoring Program SB _____

ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 472

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 760 appropriates \$100.0 thousand from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico to fund college preparatory mentoring programs at the University of New Mexico School of Law for students in the sixth through twelfth grades in the Albuquerque public school system.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100.0 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.

The LFC Appropriation Recommendations, Volume II, pages 364-365 states:

The committee has concerns about the growth of research and public service projects within the higher education budget, as well as the alignment of these projects with state goals and strategic plans. The committee also continues to have significant concerns about accountability and performance outcomes for these projects.

The committee recommendation reduces funding included in the HED request by varying levels from FY09 funding amounts for research projects, public service projects and P-20 pipeline projects focusing on students.

With respect to special projects, higher education institutions advanced 114 proposals for new projects and expansions at a total general fund cost of \$54 million during the HED budget request process in fall 2008.

The Executive Budget in Brief notes that over the years more than 300 RPSPs have been created, accounting for a large portion of institution budgets. The current RPSPs were reviewed while considering the relevance of the project to the core mission of the institution, the community benefit and the outcomes associated with each project. (Budget in Brief and Policy Highlights, P 9-10.)

The HED states that this request was not submitted by UNM to the HED for review and is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY10.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The HED states that The funding is for Los Companeros, which is part of ENLACE (Engaging Latino Communities for Education). Los Companeros is in its eighth year, aimed at improving retention and graduation rates for middle, high school, and college students. The mission of Los Companeros, through the mentoring program, is to promote both academic and personal success among Hispanic middle school students through a culturally relevant mentoring program provided by university students. Funding from this appropriation would be used to pay the salaries of university undergraduate students who are offering these mentoring services to middle and high school students within the Albuquerque Public School system.

The PED notes that this program relates to PED high school performance measures relating to academic proficiency, addressing the cohort graduation rate and reducing the percent of recent NM high school graduates who take remedial courses in higher education at two-year and four-year schools.

RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 760 relates to Senate Bill 472 which would appropriate \$2,000,000 for the statewide ENLACE program.

GH/mc