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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/27/09

SPONSOR Boitano LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE NMSU Family Resource Center SB 91

ANALYST Haug

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$120.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)
 New Mexico State University (NMSU)
 Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 91 appropriates \$120.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for operation of the Family Resource Center.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$120.0 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.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The HED states that this request was submitted by NMSU to the HED for review, but not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY 10. SB91 is not a priority on HED's legislative agenda, but is consistent with the Department's strategic priorities and goals to support educational achievement.

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.

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.

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.)

NMSU states:

The purpose of the Family Resource Center (FRC) is to support educational achievement among students by promoting healthy couple and family relationships. Students who have supportive, positive relationships with their partners and/or children are more likely to succeed academically and to graduate. The services provided by the FRC include:

- parenting education
- individual, couple, and family therapy
- nutrition education
- programs for preschool children
- tutoring and after-school programs for school-age children
- family activities to promote closeness and communication

The FRC served about 1,900 individuals and provided over 2,500 hours of educational programming last year. The FRC also serves as a “learning laboratory” for undergraduate and graduate students at NMSU. Undergraduate students in Family and Child Science can complete a 120-hour required internship at the FRC. Graduate students in Marriage and Family Therapy are supervised on site as they provide therapy to university students and their families.

Because the FRC is supported entirely by student fees, only students and their families are eligible for services. With funding from the state, the FRC could also serve the children and families of university faculty and staff as well as community members.

GH/mc