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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/04/09

SPONSOR Griego, E. LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Native American Crafts Origin Country Labels SM 55

ANALYST Burns

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 83 Native American Arts and Crafts Sales
 Relates to HB 92 Indian Arts and Crafts Sales Act Changes
 Relates to HB 633 Create Indian Arts and Crafts Fund

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)
 New Mexico Border Authority (NMBA)
 Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 55 requests that United States Customs and Border Protection amend federal rules to prohibit detachable country of origin markers on imported Native American style arts and crafts products.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to DCA, the sale of imported and non-authentic Native American arts and crafts in New Mexico is an ongoing problem in which items are sold to uneducated tourists and citizens

of the state as authentic Native American made items. The stickers and tags that currently come in on imported Native American-style arts and crafts can and are easily removed and then sold as authentic Native American made arts and crafts at a much cheaper price. This deceptive practice undermines the authenticity of hand-made Native American arts and crafts and negatively impacts the cultural, historic and economic fabric of New Mexico and its promotion of an authentic rich cultural heritage experience.

According to IAD, improved country of origin labeling of Native American style jewelry and arts and crafts could significantly support New Mexico's current activities to combat the fraudulent sale of Native American arts and crafts in New Mexico.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Customs and Border Protection would not be requested to repeal or modify the exceptions contained in the Code of Federal Regulations to combat fraud in the Indian arts and crafts market in New Mexico.

KJB/svb