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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/03/14

SPONSOR Roch LAST UPDATED HB 172

SHORT TITLE Mesalands CC Athletic Programs SB

ANALYST Hartzler-Toon

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
	\$75.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY14	FY15	FY16	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		\$75.0	\$75.0	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act, Section J, Higher Education: Mesalands Community College Athletics

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 172 appropriates \$75 thousand from the general fund to Mesalands Community College (MCC) for the purposes of supporting the college's athletic programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

As drafted, the appropriation of \$75 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY15 shall revert to the general fund. However, MCC has consistently received general fund appropriations for athletics in HB 2.

Should the appropriation in this bill be included in HB 2, Section 4, the funds would likely be treated as a recurring general fund appropriation. (The tables of this FIR treat the appropriation in HB 172 as a recurring appropriation.)

In FY14, MCC received a \$59.9 thousand general fund appropriation to fund its athletic programs, including its nationally-known rodeo program. For FY15, HED requested and the LFC and Executive recommended a general fund appropriation of \$59.9 thousand. Should HB 172 and either budget recommendation be enacted, the MCC athletics program would receive \$134.9 thousand in general fund revenues, a 125 percent increase over the FY14 general fund level.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) recognizes MCC's rodeo program as one of the country's best. Both the men's and women's teams and individual riders regularly earn top rankings in regional and national competitions and earn academic-athletic honors. MCC has hosted five annual community college rodeo competitions. The college also offers a number of athletic scholarships for equestrian sports, including rodeo.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Additional general fund support would not add an administrative burden for MCC.

DUPLICATION

HB 172 duplicates an appropriation to MCC's athletic program in the General Appropriation Act (HB 2).

THT/jl