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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/03/14

SPONSOR McCamley **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HM** 32

SHORT TITLE NMSU Water Resources Institute Report **SB** _____

ANALYST Armstrong

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 25,
 Duplicates Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Response

New Mexico State University (NMSU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 32 requests that the Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) present water policy options, including efficiency, watershed restoration and desalination, to the interim committee responsible for water and natural resources by December 2014.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

WRRI was created in 1963 to support water resource research to improve the state's water management. With the severe drought conditions that continue to prevail in New Mexico, management of water resources becomes more critical. According to OSE analysis, WRRI has an aggressive plan to develop a statewide water budget, assess brackish groundwater, research hydraulic fracturing extraction techniques, and examine desalination technologies.

DUPLICATION, RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 25 appropriates \$2 million in non-reverting funds from the general fund to NMSU to support WRRI operations.

Senate Bill 138 establishes a working group to conduct a study and complete a report on water supply, water demand, and related issues in New Mexico.

JA/jl